

ELECTION OF SCOTCH PEERS.

Thursday being the day fixed for the election of the sixteen Representative Peers of Scotland, an immense assemblage collected in the Picture Gallery, Holyrood House. At twelve o'clock the Lord Provost and Magistrates arrived, and took their place at the lower end of the Peers' table, which was set out in the centre of the room. Immediately thereafter the Peers entered, and arranged themselves on each side of the table.

The whole votes by the Peers present, the proxies, and the signed lists having been taken, the state of the vote was found to stand thus.—

The Marquis of Queensbury 56, Marquess of Tweeddale 56—The Earl of Errol 55, Earl of Home 53, Earl of Kellie 50, Earl of Elgin 54, Earl of Northesk 37, Earl of Roseberry 56—Viscount Arbuthnot 49, Viscount Strathallan 55—Lords Forbes 51, Saltoun 57, Gray 56, Blantyre 1, Sinclair 49, Colville 45, Reay 17, Napier 55, Belhaven and Stenton 43, Rollo 25

The following were therefore duly elected :—

The Marquess of Queensbury, the Marquess of Tweeddale—The Earl of Errol, Earl of Home, Earl of Kellie, Earl of Elgin, Earl of Roseberry—Viscount Arbuthnot, Viscount Strathallan—Lords Forbes, Saltoun, Gray, Sinclair, Colville, Napier, Belhaven and Stenton

Lord Blantyre was not a candidate. Lord Kintore, however, voted for him by a signed list.

GLENROWAN, A SCOTTISH TRADITION.
From Winter Evening Tales, by the two Misses Porter.

There is yet standing in one of the wildest and most sequestered parts of Argyleshire, in Scotland, the ruins of a castle which was habitable so late as the year 1790, though even at that period only one portion of it remained entire. At present it offers but some fragments of moss-grown towers, and of broken walls, between the gaps of which the wild plum and the elder wave their neglected boughs.

The ruin stands in a melancholy glen, nearly enclosed by high heathy hills, which in summer look beautiful with their purple blossoms brightening in the sunshine; but in winter have a dark and desolate appearance, saddening to the spirits of those who live among them. Perhaps the melancholy and monotonous sound of the sea, washing the coast at no great distance, and heard through the openings of these hills, contributes to their depressing effect. Be this as it may, the effect is depressing, and the glen is rarely passed through even by strangers, without exciting a disposition to sigh.

To this cheerless place of residence, its proprietor, a young Scotch laird, after attaining the rank of lieutenant-colonel in a foreign service, recalled by the death of an elder brother, returned to settle in the year 1743. He brought with him an only sister, withdrawing her thus, equally from the amusements and the bustle of life. While this sister managed his household concerns, and beguiled her hours by the practice of elegant accomplishments, he devoted himself alternately to improving study and healthful field sports.

Colonel Ferguson was naturally of a cheerful, social humour, and for some time after their abode in Glenrowan, his sister found no reason to regret her exchange from a formal pension in France, to the hall of her father in her native hills. They had neighbours, though distant ones; and when these were assembled under their fragrant birches in summer, or round their bright ingle in winter, the light hearted song, or the graver legend, beguiled and cheered the hours.

Near twelve months glided gently away in such habits. After that, an extraordinary change took place.

Colonel Ferguson's spirits suddenly clouded; his habits of living altered; he became silent and thoughtful; abstracted in the company which occasionally resorted to the castle, yet taking long and frequent journeys, professedly, to visit absent friends, from whose society he returned quite as sad and serious as he went.

The laird frequently spent whole weeks far up the Highlands, in solitary hunting, inhabiting a wretched shealing, where the deer he killed, and the water fetched from a mountain spring, were his sole refreshments: of course he lost his good looks, while under the influence of this strange humour. Annie Ferguson marked the changes in him, and watched the increase of his melancholy, with a timid concern, which at first feared to express itself, but at length, unable to control her feelings, she gave them way; pathetically beseeching him to tell her what lay heavy on his mind.

As her brother, so taxed, persisted in ascribing the change to her fancy, or, perhaps, to a little weariness in a course of life so different from the sin of camps to which he had been used, she tenderly persuaded him to let her invite a friend she highly valued, on a long visit to the castle; intimating that such an inmate was now essential to her own depressed spirits. Colonel Ferguson, though with rather an ill grace, consented to this, and Miss Mackay was written to. Shortly after wards she arrived in Glenrowan.

This young lady was an orphan, and being a few years older than Annie Ferguson, with a small fortune entirely in her own hands, was free to go whither she would.

Miss Mackay was endowed with peculiar strength of mind, clearness of judgment, and firmness of resolution. While she held her softer and less mentally gifted friend, weep over the laird's altered spirits, this judicious young lady set herself to study the nature of his malady, for the purpose of discovering whether it were real madness, or some secret sorrow, which kind sympathy or prudent counsel might mitigate. The result of her observations was, that Colonel Ferguson was actually suffering from some real cause for despondency.

By degrees this young lady took the liberty of accompanying the laird in his long rides, which had hitherto been solitary, as they were generally prolonged far beyond the strength of his young and delicate sister. At such times Miss Mackay observed that even the little vivacity he affected before Annie, entirely abandoned him; and that, in truth, he appeared not unwilling to have his companion fancy him labouring under some heavy heart burden. Encouraged by this circumstance, Miss Mackay ventured occasionally to remark upon his evident depression, and its possible cause, at first confining herself to expressions of benevolent interest in his happiness, yet doing this with a frankness and simplicity which made it impossible for the grossest vanity to mistake the merely friendly nature of her sentiments.

Colonel Ferguson obviously understood her purpose. He would sigh, smile, and thank her in general terms: sometimes waving the subject with a portion of his original playfulness; sometimes hesitatingly; with abrupt commencement of agitated sentences as abruptly broken off in short, by many testimonies of a wish, yet a fear, of making some important confession.

Among the variety of possible causes which Miss Mackay assigned by turns in her own thoughts to Colonel Ferguson's dejection, she principally rested upon one, which to a Southern, might appear ridiculous, were we not well aware of the existence and influence of a superstition which, even to this day, remains unsubdued in its ancient strong hold, the Highlands of Scotland—I mean a belief in second sight.

It was too, likely, she thought, that Colonel Ferguson might either be the real or the fancied victim of this fatal faculty; a faculty of foreseeing disasters, which he who foresees them knows to be intractable. If this were the case, friendship could do little beyond sympathizing with the sufferer. It was, however, important for Annie Ferguson's sake, that something should be known of her brother's inward feelings; and Miss Mackay at length took courage to mention her conjectures to Colonel Ferguson himself.

This occurred one day after she had followed him in his hasty ascent of a height commanding a view of the sea, and had observed the eagerness and wildness with which, casting his eyes around, he exclaimed—'I see, I see the bloody issue.'

At these words, Miss Mackay boldly stepped forward, apologising for her intrusion, and her unintentional privy to his secret communion with his own spirit; at the same time urging him, with a tenderness the more persuasive, as it was not the ordinary manner of her manner, to consider her as a sister; one, perhaps, not equal in exclusive devotedness to his late and feelings as his own sister, yet one better qualified by more years, and a harder frame of mind, to assist him in discovering whether he were the prey of sickly delusion or really visited with the awful power of beholding the shadows of coming evils.

Colonel Ferguson remained silent, long after she had ceased to speak; his countenance meanwhile changing visibly; when, at last, he addressed her, his voice was low and emphatic.

'Miss Mackay,' he said, 'if I take you at your kind word, and confide to your breast the secret which oppresses my own, be assured that I am neither overborne by your sister-like persuasions, nor yet by a more particular admiration of your person and character, than is consistent to you for cheering mine and my dear sister's loneliness, any well warrant. I would neither gratify you, nor relieve myself, however tempted by your sensibility, were I not at this moment in want of such a firm minded friend as I know you are capable of becoming. Bitterly do I lament that my darling Annie's timid character, makes it impossible for me to repose trust in her:—to confide in her, poor love, would be stabbing her at once! I have a secret, Miss Mackay: but it is not wholly mine: I may not wantonly, uselessly divulge it: it is a secret fraught with difficulty and danger both to the relater and the hearer; once a partaker of it, you may come to loss, reproach, undeserved reproach; yet you may perform the greatest service; you may save a whole set of just and honourable persons.' Here Colonel Ferguson hastily broke off, resuming with more calmness, 'Your personal assistance in this matter would be invaluable just now; and it is in the hope of obtaining that, that I make you this confidence; but if, when known, you shrink from what I must ask of you, I will not urge my request; in such case, however, you must promise never to reveal what I shall have disclosed. Have you courage for this secret.'

Miss Mackay fixed her eyes earnestly upon the laird's face for some moments. Then, without withdrawing them, said, in as serious a voice as his own, 'Colonel Ferguson, if your secret contains nothing against the commandments of God, and the well-being of my country, I am ready to hear it, keep it, swear to keep it.'

'Well, then,' exclaimed Colonel Ferguson with a brightened look, 'I will communicate it to you this night; for I must be away to-morrow morn, on a matter that neither brooks delay, nor may be done by another. Dare you trust yourself with me alone for one hour at midnight? If you dare, provide yourself with your plaid, and by 12 o'clock be at the smaller door of the last quadrangle, and I will then conduct you to the spot whereon my secret must be told. I repeat to you, on the faith of a Christian man, that my secret contains nothing, which as a loyal and religious Scotchwoman, you may not lend hand and heart to.'

Colonel Ferguson held out his own hand as he spoke, and Miss Mackay, placing hers freely within it, renewed her promise of fidelity; promised to meet him at the hour he had appointed, trusting to her character and her purpose for protection against future scandal; and totally disclaiming all doubt of his honour and probity, she left him alone on the hill.

It may be supposed that Miss Mackay was somewhat agitated during the day, by the contemplation of this singular assignment; but her confidence in the young laird's integrity, and her own consciousness of a generous motive, strengthened her to overcome those misgivings and apprehensions natural to her age and sex; and to go through the ordinary business of the day, in Annie Ferguson's company, without betraying her internal disturbance.

The trio were sitting over a blaze of fire of peat and bogwood, hearkening at intervals to the surly wind, and the hoarse murmurs of the distant sea, (as these sounds broke in upon one of Colonel Ferguson's narratives of his adventures abroad,) they were thus sitting, when the castle clock striking ten, reminded Annie that it was time to separate for the night. Her brother's habits rendering early hours essential to him, and calling for lights, she prepared to lead the way to their separate chambers.

Miss Mackay felt her cheek blanch, at this moment warned her of the approach of one pregnant with danger, but quickly rallying herself, she returned the Colonel's questioning glance with one of resolute confidence, and retired from the hall.

As the clock struck twelve, she threw on her wrapping plaid, and kneeling down for a few moments in a short, earnest prayer, craved God's blessing and protection upon her perhaps rash enterprise.—She rose from her knees with a strengthened spirit; and lightly descending the stairs, easily threaded the mazes of a long intricate passage, let herself out of a back door into one of the open courts, whence she made her way through other deserted passages and roofless portions of the edifice, till she entered the remotest quadrangle belonging to the great tower, now completely abandoned of inhabitants.

The grasses of the court sighed to her steps and the sweep of her garments as she passed swiftly through them. By the light of a small dark lantern, which she kept carefully turned in an opposite direction from the inhabited part of the mansion, she saw Colonel Ferguson was waiting for her.

In silence and respect he bowed his head as she came up to him and leading the way, proceeded to a door at the foot of the tower. This he opened with a small key, and having entered at the bottom of a spiral staircase, locked the door, and turning towards her, in a hoarse and a stifled voice, if she felt confidence enough in him, to commit herself thus entirely to his honour, at such an hour? If she felt no painful doubt, he prayed her not to go on. Miss Mackay's fear of woman failed her for a moment as this interrogatory seemed to offer her immediate escape from a perilous adventure; but ashamed of the disconcerting panic, she roused her spirits, and replying confidently, that she relied implicitly on him, followed up the winding stairs.

From the first landing place they turned into a suit of apartments which by beginning in this tower, were continued along one remaining side of that part of the building which had formerly contained the state apartments. These were large and comfortable, neither hanging nor furniture of any kind remained in them. In some the windows were entirely shaken out by the storms of successive winters in others they were loose and shaking.

In the last chamber (which was smaller than the preceding one and the windows of which were well secured, as it attention had kept them in order) Colonel Ferguson stopped, locked the door, and warning Miss Mackay to remember all he did, pressed his foot upon the spring of a trap door, which immediately started up. He then took the chilled hand of his passive companion (now seriously attentive) and led her down a steep flight of stone stairs, into a vault evidently running in under the castle.

Here the young laird paused, and pointing to a large iron chest, prayed Miss Mackay would sit down, while he should explain all that she had witnessed, and try to secure her aid in a good cause.

It is not necessary to detail here all that Colonel Ferguson said and suffice it, that Miss Mackay heard, for the first time from his lips that the exiled person, whom she, in common with most true Scotchwomen, considered as her lawful Prince, was on the point of entering Scotland, to head such an army as his friends might privily have collected; hoping successfully to dispute the crown with its existing possessor, the Emperor of Hanover.

Colonel Ferguson had become known to his native prince while on the continent, and being solicited to join in an attempt to restore Charles Edward to what he believed to be his right, had, with much youthful enthusiasm, directly entered into the scheme, and returned to Argyleshire, solely with views to that effect.

On his first settlement in Glenrowan, his hopes were strong; his confidence of success unbounded; for he believed every heart as truly disinterested and devoted as his own; but in the progress of his negotiation with the different noblemen and gentlemen who were to take an active share in the enterprise, Colonel Ferguson found so much lukewarmness in some; rashness in others; folly, selfish policy, and rottenness of principle, that at the first shock he too hastily despaired of efficient support from those whose integrity and capacity ensured adherence unto death. His faculties became bewildered so that he was not left sufficiently master of himself, to judge men's

characters clearly. But he could not mistake that of the great captain in whose country his paternal estate was unluckily placed; and that chieftain, being the firmest and noblest adherent of the Hanoverian dynasty, came ever on the eye of Colonel Ferguson as a genius.

His own overblown hopes were as hastily blighted as they had blown; until the most painful presentiments took possession of his mind, as to the issue of an affair on which the honor and happiness of thousands depended.

When this change of feeling occurred, the laird's spirits and manner had naturally altered too. Foreseeing a fatal end to the enterprise ere it began, and conscious that his castle contained documents of vital importance to many, he was tormented with apprehensions for others, which he scorned to quail under for himself. In the treacherous chest, on which Miss Mackay sat, were deposited certain deeds and bonds from the great exile to different lairds and nobles, acknowledging the loan of money, or pledging himself to reward given services by future grants.

These documents, if discovered, together with a correct list of the persons contributing to the cause, either by gold or vassal, might prove the ruin of some of the best and bravest on Scottish ground; although several in that list were, in Colonel Ferguson's opinion, worthy of an honest man's anxiety; for the generous many, who were freely, disinterestedly risking all that is dear to human heart as a price of their wandering pence, he was ready to incur any personal forfeiture.

Colonel Ferguson was aware, that either just before, or immediately upon his royal master's landing, he would be summoned to report certain needful details; and he feared leaving the high trusts committed to him, behind in the castle, (within the very grasp of Argyleshire without leaving some one also, authorised to destroy them during his absence, should disastrous circumstances render such a measure necessary.

When Miss Mackay's uncommon character first opened upon him, he was struck with the notion that Providence had thus provided him with a person fitted to receive such a confidence, and to co-operate with him afterwards, in all he had at heart. Under such an impression, he observed her more narrowly, and finally became confirmed in his early idea. At this critical period a summons arrived, commanding him to repair to the house of another staunch friend of the Stuarts, where Charles Edward's most confidential agent was bound to be expected from France. At this eventful moment, Miss Mackay herself opened the way to confidence, when his amazed spirits were all alarm at the instant call upon them, unprovided as he yet was with a faithful coadjutor. The opportunity was not lost upon him; and he was now, with many expressions of high esteem, disclosing to her all that had so long weighed upon his own unsupported mind.

Miss Mackay's countenance, while Colonel Ferguson was speaking, encouraged the tale he told: she was evidently deeply interested; and the *leal heart* of a Scotch woman, warm, generous, self-sacrificing (where she believed duty and loyalty demanded self-devotion), sparkled in her fixed and speaking eye. The colour was stored richly to her cheek; and the high beating of her heart (with swelling and sinking of the plaid folding her bosom revealed its quick movements), proved that in that heart there were confident hopes, as well as magnanimous resolution.

When Colonel Ferguson, in concluding, asked whether she would take upon her the charge of what he must leave behind him in the vault where they now stood; or, refusing that, simply give him his oath never to divulge to any one's detriment what he had just confided to her;—she replied cheerfully in the affirmative to the first, voluntarily binding herself never to reveal, while there could be danger to any individual by the disclosure, any part of what she had been listening to that night. Colonel Ferguson took her oath, placed on her knees, over his pocket bible; then stooping to the chest from which she had risen, opened it, and displayed its contents.

'These leatheren bags,' he said, pointing to several under her feet, 'contain gold coins and jewels, contributed by faithful Scotchmen for the aid and support of their prince. This roll of parchment is the list of contributors, this contains bonds and pledges in the name of Charles Edward's own hand. Now, hearken carefully to my instructions concerning each deposit. I go, assuredly to bear arms under my prince's banner, if I find it raised in Inverness: when that gold is needed I will send a trusty messenger for it, to whom you must deliver it under the shadow of night, with your own hands; even at midnight you shall have no cause to fear insult or unseasonable jesting from such a messenger.—Old or young I will pledge my honour for his.'

A manly blush stained Miss Mackay's cheek, as she bowed, in token of satisfaction; and Colonel Ferguson resumed. 'The arrival of such a messenger will be noticed to you by the figure of a cross cut on the trunk of the great ash tree opposite your chamber window. And the number of bags you are to give him, you will learn from the number of very small crosses directly under the large one. If, instead of money, he comes to announce defeat and disaster, you will see the figure of an axe in place of the cross; and your business will then be to destroy every written paper or parchment in this chest. The gold itself can tell no tale, even to the quick-witted Argyle. After that you may abide in or depart from this castle as you please, for then all will be over; and its waste most likely, lying a mangled corpse on a battle field.'

Colonel Ferguson's voice faltered at this part of his discourse; he thought of his young and unconscious sister; he passed his hand once or twice over his eyes, then resumed in a kindly tone: 'Do not think that I forget your safety, my dear Miss Mackay: (he took her hand with respect and tenderness.) I trust that, as all will depend upon your presence of mind, I am justified in believing there is ground for apprehending evil to you. Shrouded in your plaid, and even the faithful gentleman whom I hope to charge with my commissions, may discern your features; nor can he know your voice accurately, as only a sort of pass-word need be exchanged. After he has carried his signal, (which, should he chance to be observed, may pass for a traveller's idle sport,) he will rejoin at midnight to the door at the foot of these stairs. You will, therefore, proceed thither as soon as you have previously executed your part of the perilous duty, and, as the clock strikes twelve, you will go down to the door, (which he will not have a key,) and there you will find him waiting. Ere you unfasten the door, let the words 'Bruce' and 'Charles Edward' be mutually exchanged. You may then open it with safety.—You will then silently place the treasure-bags in his hand: he will place a voucher for them in yours and depart. This voucher you must carry back to the vault, and leave it in lieu of the gold. After this, you may return home at your leisure.

Should, however, my messenger come to announce the necessity of destroying the written documents, you can burn them, by lighting them at the candle of your lantern, in the vault itself. As I mark, I pray you all the peculiarities of the places you will have to pass through as we return now, so that nothing may embarrass you, even should accident extinguish your light. Above all things, remember to leave the trap-door well settled on its supports, as it opens only from the outside; for God's sake be careful to observe this.'

Miss Mackay promised attention to every particular: recapitulating to herself, very distinctly, the principal details of his instructions.

After ascending the steps of the vault, reclosing the trap-door,

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**earning the secret of the spring, and retreading their way through
solitary chambers down to the foot of the tower, Miss Mackay received
there the keys of the tower door, that of the trap-chamber, and
the more important one belonging to the iron chest. Benedictions
were then exchanged whisperingly between her and her companion,
who was to leave Glenrowan early next day; this done, they parted,
taking separately a somewhat different way back to the inhabited
quarter of the castle.**

[To be continued.]

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GLENROWAN, A SCOTTISH TRADITION.

From *Winter Evening Tales*, by the two Misses Porter.
COKET UYEN

More than a fortnight elapsed after this, before Miss Mackay was called upon to execute any part of the commission with which the young lord had charged her. But, during that period, Colonel Ferguson wrote to his sister, expressing himself for prolonged absence, on the plausible pretext of a tour, and, agreeably with a concerted plan between them, Miss Mackay gathered from the form in which he wrote his signature, that Charles Edward's messenger was not yet arrived.

The innocent and ignorant Annie, gratified by the cheerful tone of her brother's letter, and remembering with pleasure his solicitous manner to her friend on the morning of his departure, neither guessed nor fancied any thing more occult in the epistle, than a little partiality intended to be displayed, she therefore handed it to her evidently expectant companion, accompanying the action with girlish ruddiness at the obvious understanding between her and her brother.

Miss Mackay, comprehending her fancy, took the railway in good part; happy thus to beguile the poor girl from any suspicion of the real case.

Not long after this, one morning at the hour of rising, Miss Mackay, who regularly went to her window to examine the trunk of the ash tree, observed on it the concerted sign, a large cross with two smaller ones beneath; her heart stopped, and then throbbled quicker than before. It was some minutes before she could compose herself sufficiently to descend to the breakfast room, and there talk and occupy herself as usual.

To be sure that she must go alone, at midnight, to the remotest part of the ruined castle, through deserted and undefended courts, and gloomy chambers, the entrance to which she must lock after she had entered upon them, and thence descend into a gloomy vault, was sufficiently appalling to any woman. But when, in addition to this, Miss Mackay reflected that she must trust herself (momentarily indeed) to a strange man, perhaps rude in manner, coarse in feelings, and libertine in habits, she shuddered at her own fool-hardiness, and with womanly delicacy arraigned herself for having consented to that part of Colonel Ferguson's arrangements. Continued reflection in some measure tranquilized her, as it assured her that such a person as Colonel Ferguson could have no friend that was not honourable, nor any selected agent who would not prove honest; added to this, she had the protection of a Power, which, if faithfully believe, never deserts us, till we abandon our better selves.

Half an hour before midnight, when all in the castle were buried in sleep, Miss Mackay lighted her lantern, took the keys she needed, and wrapping herself from head to foot in her plaid, issued from the dwelling house into the first court.

The moon shone so brightly that she had no occasion for the light she carried; and the night was so still, that she almost fancied that she heard the beating of her heart, as well as the sound of her light tread as she passed along.

In the last quadrangle just as she opened the tower door, she turned round, and looking up at the sky just inside the hood of her tartan cloak, addressing, as she did so, in momentary prayer of heart, the Creator of that splendid heaven, and of the peace of earth on which she stood.

At that moment, an ill-suppressed sound, expressive of some strong feeling, (in another scene she might have deemed it one of admiration,) made her turn hastily towards the point whence it proceeded; a martial figure instantly stepped forward into the moonlight, from the shadow of an archway, uttering in a suppressed voice, with a respectful obeisance, the name of Bruce.

Miss Mackay immediately acknowledged the messenger from Colonel Ferguson, by articulating 'Charles Edward,' and hurrying into the tower, locked herself tremblingly within it.

Even in this momentary glimpse of the person without, she thought his figure and bearing were those of a gentleman. The grace of his obeisance, nay, the very folding of his plaid, marked the high-born Highlander; his tartan also was that of the clan she most honoured; and with much of national pride and possible prejudice, believing herself safe with one of gentle blood, she hastened to complete her task.

The moon shining directly upon the range of apartments she had to pass, lighted her seemingly through such that glorious light seemed an angel companion through such solitarily chambers.

In the vault her lantern became useful; and finding, from the weight of the treasure-bags, that she could not well convey two at once, she ascended at separate times with them, and separately deposited them at the foot of the stairs. As she opened the tower door not a word was uttered, as she exchanged those heavy purses with him without for a slip of parchment, acknowledging their receipt in the name of Colonel Ferguson.

Again she closed and locked the door, returning to the vault to deposit the voucher there, then emerging from the tower, came forth into the sweet air with a heart thankful for the courage and protection heaven had lent her.

After this successful execution of the task imposed on her, Miss Mackay became more composed in her spirits, therefore had no longer to contend against her own uneasiness, whilst trying to amuse and enliven her naturally fearful companion.

This, indeed, was no easy task; for Annie Ferguson was afraid of ghosts, afraid of storms, afraid of loneliness. Whilst her brother was near, she believed, with a child's credulity, of his mother's power, that nothing could harm her, but he away, she felt like a superstitious invalid deprived of his charm. She bewailed his absence too, not merely for the loss of his protection, but the loss of his dear society, and very soon refused comfort on the subject. From all this, Miss Mackay saw how rightly Colonel Ferguson had acted, by deciding against trusting his sister with his momentous secret; the very affection and timidity of that tender-hearted girl would have rendered it impossible for her to have gone through the agitating duty which a firmer heart and hand had just executed.

The lord's absence crept on from week to week. Neither by private intimation, nor from public report, did Miss Mackay hear of the French agent's arrival in Scotland, and her zeal in Charles Edward's cause made her suffer much anxiety in consequence.

Winter was now far advanced, all its dreary sounds of dismal winds screaming wild-fowl, together with the vexed boughs of leafless trees, were heard echoing through the glen, the paths were strewn with the ruins of many a summer house, and except the heavy Norway crow, and the bright eyed robin, not a bird remained to court its daily dole at the hand of Annie Ferguson.

Now began the season for long fire-side evenings, and yet longer tales of witch, apparition, mysterious disappearance and fearful

murder! Miss Mackay vainly endeavoured sometimes to substitute for these a course of improving reading, or to circulate a more cheerful tone of conversation among the few families who came now and then, in pure charity, ten or twelve miles off, to visit Annie Ferguson, poor body, that was left amidst her lane by that daft chiel her brother.

Inveighed by others, Miss Mackay's efforts were fruitless; and she herself often retired from these lugubrious conversations (for she was not beyond every female weakness) with sensations, which, if they were not absolute fear, amounted to uncomfortableness.

With such a feeling, she one night withdrew after listening to a peculiarly awful story of presentiment fearfully fulfilled, as related by a maiden aunt of Annie Ferguson's over a dying fire. It was a most unlucky period for such impression, as Miss Mackay had in the morning received intimation, by a new sign on the ash-tree, that she was again required to visit the haunted part of the castle. For haunted of course, in common with all other deserted dwellings, it was said to be.

It was a dismal night. The roar of the distant sea was heard in the intervals of the still louder and more fearful wind; for the latter literally pealed like thunder through the mountain chasms.

The crash of trees, the fall of heavy fragments from the walls and towers of the castle, added to the din and the danger. Not a star was visible; every thing was covered with thick darkness.

Miss Mackay had a woman's heart, though it was of woman's highest order; and her's bent with a little personal fear, as she hurried under the tottering ruins and groaning trees, her greatest apprehensions soon arose from fancying some one was solicitously following her.

She thought she distinctly heard footsteps pursuing her's, quickening, relaxing, pausing, as her's did by turns. For one brief instant the superstition of a person's own spirit following, to warn them of threatening death, crossed her mind, and made her heart sick; but quickly recovering, she pressed desperately onward.

Miss Mackay's entrance to the tower was now a relief to her; any spot within seemed a shelter from the darkness and danger without. She locked the door with her former precaution, and carefully seeing that the candle in her lantern was in no risk of extinction, proceeded up the winding staircase.

Through the long suite of dark chambers she was obliged to traverse, howling blasts, like the voices of denouncing spirits, accompanied her, instead of that angel light which had appeared to bless and to sanctify her progress when she last trod the same floors.

Even the strong mind of Miss Mackay felt the influence of this change; and her imagination soon peopled the gloomy void before her, though but at starting moments, with visionary shapes. She hurried breathlessly on, less fearful of losing her light by some sudden gust entering at the vacant window-frames, than of actually beholding some monstrous apparition.

Her hands shook a little as she lifted and settled the trap-door on its movable rest, but ere she had taken out and counted the bags of gold sent for by Colonel Ferguson, her nervous tremor began to subside.

She returned to the door at the foot of the tower successively with each load, with a far steadier step and calmer spirit than when she had entered it. Ere she opened the door, she exchanged the challenging words with the person without; then placed the treasure in his hand and re-fastening the door, returned to deposit the receipt he had given her in the iron chest.

Miss Mackay now ran quickly through the many apartments leading to the vault, for her lightened spirit gave elasticity to her body, and she smiled in gentle defiance on the fierce blasts as she descended the stone staircase.

Just as she was stooping to deposit the little document in the chest, a many-ringing crash and then a thundering clap made her start, and utter an exclamation of alarm. Her next action was to fly up the steps, which were vibrating from some great shock.

The trap door had fallen down from the force of the tempestuous wind as it blew in the whole of the loosened window just over it, smashing and scattering all its glass.

In a moment, Miss Mackay comprehended her misfortune; she endeavoured to push up the door again, whilst yet perhaps not firmly fixed but it resisted her strongest efforts. Her wilder, nay, almost maddened, attempts were equally vain. She then hastened down for her lantern by the light of which she hoped to discover the spring which secured the trap door, for though she remembered that Colonel Ferguson had asserted there was no opening the door from within, she trusted he might probably have exaggerated the danger of carelessness, only to make her more watchful over the whole concern.

The aid of her lantern was now useless; if she did indeed discover where the spring was situated, she found it equally unmovable as before. Again and again she made the trial, calling aloud for help between each agonizing failure. No voice answered her.—The awful wind pealing above the battlements now with solemn continuity, now rushing with shrill shrike through a thousand casements and trammels of the ruin, were the only sounds that returned to her ear—her feeble cry must be drowned in such a tempest.

That single human being who could alone have succoured her, perhaps, (the messenger from Colonel Ferguson) must be now, she knew, too far beyond the precincts of the castle for any of its sounds to reach him, and if he were gone, (which he must be, it true to his duty,) ought she to summon other aid?

At this agitating question Miss Mackay sunk upon the steps with the emotion of one who has received his sentence of death, her cry involuntarily ceased whilst a cold dew spread all over her. A confusion of thoughts and feelings, of fears and resolutions, doubts and perplexities crowded through her mind without her being able to fix one of them, so as to ascertain what would be right, what criminal. She saw that she must either risk the discovery of Colonel Ferguson's secret together with the lives of all the persons concerned with him, or she must be content to remain and perish where she was.

Miss Mackay was of a truly heroic character, she could have met death on the scaffold in a good and great cause, as nobly as the bravest spirit that ever bent neck to the headman's axe. But a lingering and lonely death—death by inches—was a sacrifice almost beyond her strength, and she contemplated it with a degree of horror. This was aggravated by a religious fear of being thus punished for presumptuous sin. It was possible that the Searcher of all hearts had found in her's, iniquity unsuspected or overlooked by herself pride, and self consequence; and for some time this fear awed her into passiveness.

But again human infirmities revived: once more she resumed with earnest prayers resumed her attempts at releasing herself, and was as often forced, from alternate fatigue and conviction of its hopelessness, to abandon the attempt.

At length, quite exhausted she left the steps, and throwing herself on the floor of the vault, from the damp of which her plaid in some degree protected her, endeavoured to compose herself, not to sleep but to nature, first commencing her desolate state to the pity and protection of the only Being who could now rescue her, and trusting that his mercy might enable her, when day dawned, to discover some mode of raising the trap.

It may be imagined that no slumber visited Miss Mackay'saching eyelids; she lay listening to the dismal sounds without, watching the

progress and decay of the storm, till by degrees the wind died wholly away, and heavy rain succeeded. Even in her dungeon she could hear it pouting in, through rifts in the roof, and splashing over the door of the trap. Comfortless as was this sound, it was more welcome to Miss Mackay than that of the wind, since it afforded some probability of her cries being heard, should her troubled mind eventually decide upon the lawfulness of calling for aid.

From the abatement of the storm, she could now hear the great clock of the castle, she first heard it strike the hour of five. Morning was then begun, but it was a December morning, and it would be long ere broad day. The candle in her lantern was long since burnt out; she was in utter darkness. Hours crept on, till at length noon came; but even so, not a gleam of cheering day penetrated to poor Miss Mackay: the door of the trap fitted so perfectly, that it left not a chink for a ray to enter; and at this conviction all her terrors were renewed.

Another and another desperate attempt succeeded as the hours of the hunter on the hills came indistinctly on her ear, well nigh maddening her with its sound. Life, freedom, were without, while she was perishing in a place where none would think to seek her.

With death thus before her, Miss Mackay thought of poor Annie Ferguson—of Colonel Ferguson's grief, nay, remorse, when he should find that she had fallen a sacrifice to his fatal confidence; and for a few bewildering instants, during which she called piercingly and wildly for help, she fancied her death would weigh as heavily upon his conscience, as would have done the lives of those other persons for whom she was dying; for they surely must have contemplated and accepted the probability of losing life in the cause they had embraced.

In such alternations of distraction and resignation, Miss Mackay wore out the whole of a day, every moment of which seemed aggravated into hours. Each hour, as it passed, diminished her strength and her hopes, for she had nothing to eat, and that deadly sensation of complete exhaustion from want of food, began to overtake her, which preceded, in a delicate stomach, the sharper pangs of hunger. Towards night fell a cold and benumbing sensation began to creep over her, her head grew giddy, and she had the consciousness of a wandering in her mind, which alarmed her at herself.

Miss Mackay now raised herself on her knees, and with clasped hands, no longer wildly, impatiently wrung, but locked together in earnest supplication, implored mercy and mental strength from the Source of all good.

She first besought pardon for every sin of her past life; then moved support under the heavy dispensation of the present hour. The will of her heavenly Father appeared to her too clearly indicated for her to use further importunity on the subject of escape from it. With Christian humbleness, therefore, she prepared to receive and drink the bitter cup ordained for her by Him who knows what is best for his creatures.

Miss Mackay prayed long and fervently, though not in audible words, for her tongue cleaved to the roof of her mouth, and her voice fell back with each effort to raise it. Every moment her head grew more dizzy, and her limbs more benumbed; a general stagnation of her blood and senses followed, and by degrees that outward feeling, suffering, consciousness—she fell, without knowing it, fully deprived of every thing like life, except faint breathing, upon the steps of the vault.

Miss Mackay's eyes were not closed forever;—she opened them again after the lapse of an hour,—saw the vault, a lantern burning before her on its floor and a figure kneeling by her side, with a bottle's flask, with which he had just been moistening her lips and drying her temples.

It was Colonel Ferguson himself, who had thus been providentially sent to her rescue.

Twenty-four hours after he had despatched his messenger to Glenrowan, one of the written documents in the iron chest became necessary, and he therefore set off himself, for the purpose of obtaining it. Having the master-key of all the apartments, and arriving at nightfall, he had neither time nor occasion for seeking Miss Mackay's assistance, so proceeded at once to the Tower. There he meant to have left, with the receipt for the paper, a few lines, informing Miss Mackay of what he had done, and why he could not find himself in the castle. He had gone calmly on, as usual, through the apartments; had stopped a few moments to observe the damage done to the windows of the last chamber, by the storm of the preceding night, and having lifted the trap, was descending its steps when the bright tartan of Miss Mackay's plaid, shining underneath him, made him start back.

The absence of other light than his own, her ghastly hue and coldness, at once proclaimed her miserable fate. He sprang down the remaining steps, immediately conceiving the cause of her situation, and, with happy presence of mind, poured into her lips a few drops of ardent spirits.

As this unwonted cordial began to renew warmth in the stomach, the heart resumed its action, and by slow degrees Miss Mackay recovered life and consciousness.

Ere Colonel Ferguson asked her any questions he made her swallow a few morsels of the oaten cake with which he was provided for travelling, and when this also had produced a reviving effect, briefly stated the purpose of his journey, devoutly acknowledging heaven's goodness in thus sending him to her relief, and pled himself to call upon her no more for a similar act of friendship and loyalty.

'Since I shall now take away with me all those dangerous documents,' he said, 'the gold and my own private papers may be entrusted to the brave and well tried young chieftain, who has hitherto received them from your hands. He will henceforth consider this vault himself, as I shall direct him, and the keys in your possession will therefore be transferred by me to him.'

'Your dangerous office then ceases here, my dear Miss Mackay continued Colonel Ferguson, with much emotion, 'and God be praised ever praised, that I have not the woe upon my head, of having reduced your valuable life to my unwarranted demands upon a courage and kindness which I had no right to task thus.'

Whilst he spoke, Miss Mackay was on her knees, inwardly blessing the Almighty for her great deliverance, she had not heard his word he said, but, upon his repetition of it, and reminding her that they must provide some plausible excuse for her long absence at rest, bathed in relieving tears, and tried to calm her grateful spirit.

As her absence could only have been noticed since the breakfast hour, and as she was often in the habit of rambling before that time it might well be supposed that the stormy rain had kept her in some distant cavern or shealing, even till the present late hour; because renewal of the early morning's heavy rain had actually occurred very soon after the two hours of fan weather which, it might be conjectured, had tempted Miss Mackay abroad.

It was now late evening, indeed dark evening, but it was not a lute night, and, sufficiently strengthened by another small portion of Colonel Ferguson's travelling fare, Miss Mackay prepared to support of his arm, to retrace her way to the house.

At the last court he left her, with many a whispered benediction and expression of regret that he might not accompany her into a house, and embrace his fond Annie. By the way he had informed Miss Mackay of all connected with his own mission, and thus enabled her clear unbiased mind to calculate the probability of success.

failure for the great enterprise in hand. She gave many signs as they parted, to the doubtful prospects of her prince.

Though greatly alarmed at her friend's long absence, and at the return of various servants sent to seek her in accustomed haunts, Annie Ferguson easily credited the slight account Miss Mackay rather implied, than boldly told, concerning her detention by an accidental fainting fit, in a mountain hollow; and, seeing her pale and shivering, occupied herself so anxiously in administering to her imagined indisposition, that further particulars were not questioned — With many a tender caress, the affectionate girl saw her friend comfortably in bed, and having given a warm posset of her own making, left her to grateful rest.

Here Miss Mackay's share in the schemes of the Scottish lairds may be said to have terminated, for after this night's adventure, her services were no longer demanded.

Every one knows the fate of that disastrous enterprise. Colonel Ferguson never returned to his home; he fell bravely on the field of Culloden. Miss Mackay subsequently became the wife of the gallant Highlander who had shared with her the secret of the tower.

This young chieftain's ardent imagination had at first been roused by Colonel Ferguson's description of her magnanimous courage and devoted loyalty; his senses were easily captivated afterwards, by the view he had of her person, under the embellishing light of the moon; and the finishing stroke was put to her conquest of him, by the mixed anxiety and admiration with which he had silently protected, by following her through the raging elements of a night ever memorable to both.

After they married Annie Ferguson, sad and bereaved, yet still clinging to some loved support, accompanied the well-matched pair abroad, where they all lived for many years in such happiness as this mixed world can afford, even to the best and happiest. When this hope ceased of the StUARTS' restoration, Annie deemed it her duty to return and take up her abode among her own people in Glenrowan. There she spent a somewhat pensive life, for pious sentiments strengthening with her age, kept it from being a melancholy one — She never married; but dedicated her few powers of mind, and many excellent qualities of heart, to the solace and succour of all within her reach. At Glenrowan she was occasionally visited by her faithful friends and their children; and there, when the brown hair of my heroine was gray, did that heroine herself relate the tale I am now telling, with lively gratitude for her mighty deliverance.

471. 1826. Edinburgh, Oliver and Boyd; London, George B. Whittaker.

Several of our most judicious critics have made honourable mention of Mr. Stewart for his able Continuation of Goldsmith's History of England, his improved edition of Cornelius Nepos, and his excellent and conclusive Dissertation on the Sublime Poems of the Son of Fingal; it was, therefore, with no ordinary expectations, that we took up this History of Scotland, and we are happy to say, that those expectations have been in every respect gratified.

"The exercises he has endeavoured to make so clear and distinct, that the young student will have no difficulty in finding a precise answer to every question; and so copious, as to affix his attention on every event and circumstance which it is important to remember."

The arrangement is, in our opinion, altogether admirable; indeed we have rarely met with a work so completely fitted either for the school-room, or the private student. Mr. Stewart's characters of James the First, and the unfortunate Mary will afford our readers ample opportunity to form an opinion of his style:—

"Historians and poets delight to dwell on this reign as the most splendid in the annals of Scotland. His early and long-protracted captivity, his extraordinary accomplishments, his love celebrated in his own beautiful verses, his conjugal happiness, and the self-devotion of his lovely queen at his death, give to the history of this amiable but ill-fated king, an air of tender romance. In every personal and mental acquirement he excelled all his contemporaries. Though rather below the middle stature, he possessed wonderful strength and activity of body; and in all the graceful and manly exercises he was nearly unrivalled. In music he displayed the taste and skill of a master; and many of our most enchanting national airs are said to be of his composition. He was the father of Scottish poetry; and the interest with which, notwithstanding their antiquated diction, we still read *The King's Quair* and *Christ Kirk on the Green*, is the most unequivocal tribute to his poetical genius. But it is his enlarged and liberal policy, and his enlightened regard for the welfare of his people, that chiefly command our admiration and esteem. 'Happy!' says one historian, 'had he reigned in a kingdom more civilized; his love of peace, justice and elegance, would have rendered his schemes successful; and, instead of perishing because he had attempted too much, a grateful people would have applauded and seconded his efforts to reform and improve them.' 'Happy!' says another, 'had he lived to execute strictly the laws which he had wisely enacted for the general good of a wretched people.'"

There is much skill and pathos in the following delineation, which will perhaps enable the reader to form a more correct judgment of the merits of the work, than any other we could have selected:—

"Amidst the political and religious prejudices of contemporary historians, we look in vain for Mary's real character. By one party she is depicted as a monster of vice; by another, as a perfect model of virtue. But both her friends and enemies concur in ascribing to her those personal charms, and those elegant accomplishments, which combined to render her the most lovely and fascinating of women. Her exquisite beauty of countenance was equalled by the perfect symmetry of her form. Her hair was black; her eyes a dark gray; her complexion fine; her arms and hands remarkably delicate, both in shape and colour. Her stature rose to the majestic. She danced, she walked, and rode with equal grace. Her taste for music was just; and she both sung and played upon the lute with uncommon skill. The impression which these accomplishments made on every heart was aided by the sprightliness of her temper, the graceful dignity of her manner, and her polite and insinuating address. The devoted attachment of her domestics bore honourable testimony to the amiable qualities of her heart; and while she occupied the throne, her justice, her generosity, her constancy, her fidelity in friendship, and her magnanimity in every vicissitude of her fortune, were acknowledged and admired even by her most violent adversaries.

"Charity will ascribe the defects of her character, her errors, and misconduct, rather to the unfortunate circumstances in which she was placed, than to any peculiar depravity of disposition. A queen almost from her birth, she was nursed in the bosom of adulation: it was therefore little to be wondered if her passions, habituated to indulgence, should be ardent and impetuous; and if her temper, unaccustomed to restraint, should be hasty and impatient of contradiction. Educated in the most polished, but profligate, court in Europe she naturally turned in aversion from the austere and rugged manners of the people whom she was called to govern. The gay and lively manners of the French were congenial to her native vivacity of spirits; and, accustomed from her infancy to the gallantry of polite and artful courtiers, she became fond of flattery, and pleased with the homage which her beauty commanded. Though naturally frank and unsuspicious, she could practise, at times, the most refined dissimulation, which she was trained to regard as one of the most necessary arts of government.

"In her matrimonial connexions she was peculiarly unfortunate. When a child she was betrothed to a boy of an unsound constitution and of mean capacity. In her maturer years, she bestowed her hand and affections on a handsome but profligate youth, who requited her love with neglect, insolence, and brutality. Her attachment to Darnley has been censured as 'rash, youthful, and excessive.' But when it is recollected how eagerly Elizabeth and some of her own counsellors deprecated her union with any foreign prince, her choice of her nearest kinsman, the next heir after herself to the English crown, must be considered as unfortunate, not imprudent. A less gentle epithet must be applied to her marriage with Bothwell. Innocent as she may have been of all participation in the murder of Darnley, it is impossible to find any apology for her consenting to marry his murderer. This is the deepest stain upon her memory; yet even this may be accounted for, though by no means justified, by the unhappy and dependent circumstances in which she was placed.

"Though her rebellious subjects made this the pretext for their taking arms against her, it was by her religious prejudices that she was rendered most obnoxious to her people; and it was of these that her enemies availed themselves to effect her ruin. Reared in a devoted attachment to the Roman Catholic faith, she was taught to regard with dread and abhorrence the reformed opinions embraced by her people, and to believe that it would be the greatest glory of her reign to reduce her kingdom to the obedience of the Papal see. Moderate and conciliating as she seemed at first inclined to be, the rude opposition made to her religious tenets by the preachers and leaders of the Reformation, strongly riveted her prejudices; and there seemed to be at length some ground for the alarm, which was most industriously kept alive, that she was determined to subvert the established religion of the realm. Whatever her errors and her faults may have been, they were surely visited by a very disproportionate punishment; for history does not record, and scarcely has fancy feigned, a train of sufferings, to be compared in duration and severity with those of Mary Queen of Scots."

After these specimens of the very superior talents of Mr. Stewart, our readers will easily imagine with how much pleasure we announce that he is about to supply that desideratum in our literature—a Scottish history similar to that of Goldsmith's larger History of England.

JAMES I.—MARY QUEEN OF SCOTS.

The History of Scotland, from the Roman invasion till the suppression of the rebellion in 1745; with Exercises; for the Use of Schools, or of Private Students. By the Rev. Alexander Stuart. 12mo. pp.

Second Class.—Latin—Adam's Grammar, Phœdrus, Cornelius Nepos; Greek—Charter-House Rudiments; Geography and Writing.
Third Class.—Latin—Mair's Introduction to Syntax, Cæsar's Commentaries, Ovid's *Electa*; Greek—Charter-House Rudiments, Sanford's Exercises and Extracts; Geography, Arithmetic, and Writing.
Fourth Class.—Latin—Æneid, and Composition in Prose, and in Hexameter and Pentameter Verse; Greek—Charter-House Rudiments, Sanford's Exercises and Extracts; Geography, Arithmetic, and Writing.

Rector's Class.—Latin—Sixth and Ninth Books of the *Æneid*, four Books of the *Odes* of Horace, Twenty-first Book of *Livy*, Prose Compositions in *Ætlegic* and *Sapphic Measure*, and Recitations from Virgil, Horace, and *Livy*; Greek—Moore's Greek Grammar, Dalzell's *Analecta Minora*, First Book of Xenophon's *Anabasis*, Sanford's Greek Exercises, Adam's Roman Antiquities, Geography, Writing, Arithmetic, and First Book of Euclid.

In all the Classes a portion of the time is allotted to English Grammar, Reading, Recitation, and Prose Composition.

Since the first of October, 1825, the course of instruction in the four junior Classes has been nearly the same as what is stated above. The Boys who were in the Fourth Class last year, constitute the fifth Class this year; and have been partly taught by their former Master, and partly by the Rector. Their Studies since the 1st October have been as follows:—They have read a considerable portion of Sanford's Greek Extracts, the First Book of Xenophon's *Anabasis*, the Twenty-second Book of *Livy*, and the three first Books of Horace; they have been regularly exercised in the practice of Composition in Latin Prose and Verse; they have studied the Geography of Ancient and Modern Greece, Asia Minor, Syria, Palestine, and Egypt.

Those who constitute what in the above statement is termed the Rector's Class this year form the Sixth Class. They have been almost exclusively taught by the Rector, and their Studies since the 1st of October, have been as follows:—They have read the Second, Third, and Fourth Book of Xenophon's *Anabasis*, the *Mæden* of Euripides, and the *Acts* of the *Apollis*. In Latin, they have read the Twenty-second Book of *Livy*, the *Adelphi* of Terence, the Second and Third Book of Virgil's *Georgics*, his *Elogues*, and a considerable portion of Horace's *Satires* and *Epistles*. Their exercises in Composition have been particularly attended to. Their studies in Geography have been the same as those in the Fifth Class.

During the present year, the studies of the Fifth and Sixth Classes, under the Mathematical Master, have been,—

Arithmetic—as far as the extraction of the Square and Cube Roots, First Three Books of Euclid; and *Algebra*, as far as Quadratic Equations.

With regard to the extent of instruction proposed to be followed in the Seventh Class, which is to commence 1st October 1826, it is expected that the greater proportion of the Class will be able to read, in Latin, Tacitus, and such parts of Lucanus and Juvenal as are proper to put into the hands of Boys;—Greek, Homer, several of the Plays of Euripides and Sophocles, and the Historical parts of Herodotus; and that the greatest benefit will be derived from the opportunity that will be afforded of paying greater attention to Composition in Greek and Latin Prose and Verse.

With regard to Mathematics, where the Pupils come under the charge of the Mathematical Master at the beginning of the third year, the majority of them will, in the Seventh Class, accomplish Euclid, Plane and Spherical Trigonometry, Conic Sections, Algebra, and Practical Mathematics.

With regard to French, it is presumed that an hour's instruction every day, for ten months, will enable the majority of the Pupils to read and understand, grammatically, the more easy Authors in that Language.

All the Classes in the Academy are under the superintendence and control of the Rector, the Rev. John Williams, (late of Balliol College, Oxford, and Vicar of Lampeter.)

There are Libraries in the Third and Senior Classes, consisting of Books of instruction and amusement, suited to the age of the Boys in the different Classes. These Books are lent out weekly to the Pupils, at the discretion of the Master, as a reward for good conduct.

The hours of attendance are from 9 A. M. to 3 P. M., with various short intervals for play.

There are large and commodious rooms for each Class, with a hall for occasional Meetings and Public Exhibitions of the whole School. There are about three acres of play ground surrounded with a wall, in the centre of which the building is situated, and the Gates are locked from 9 to 3 o'clock.

The expense of the Academy to each Pupil is as follows:—

Every Pupil pays annually, in the month of October, an Academy Fee, which is Two Guineas for the first Class, and Three Guineas for each subsequent year.

The Fees for instruction are payable at two periods, viz. October and March, in equal sums, and these, together with the Academy Fee, make the whole amount payable annually by each Pupil in the respective Classes, as follows:—

First Class,	-	-	-	£7	2	0
Second ditto,	-	-	-	8	13	0
Third ditto,	-	-	-	10	17	0
Fourth ditto,	-	-	-	11	9	0
Fifth ditto,	-	-	-	10	17	0
Sixth ditto,	-	-	-	10	9	0
Seventh ditto,	-	-	-	11	11	0
Average annual expense of these seven years,				10	2	7

There are no other payments for any purpose whatever, nor are any presents or gratuities by the Pupils permitted.

The number of Boys in each Class is limited to 110.

The Children and Grandchildren of Proprietors have a preference provided their names are given to the Secretary three months before the annual opening of the School, on the 1st October. In all other cases, all that is necessary is to enter the Boy's name in the Secretary's book, and he is admitted in the order of application.

The Vacation lasts the whole of the months of August and September. There is also a vacation of a week at Christmas; there are no other Holidays throughout the year, except occasionally for a single day. The School does not meet for four days in the month of November and May, at the time appointed by the Church of Scotland for the administration of the Sacrament.

Names of the present Directors.

Sir John Hay, of Hayston and Smithfield, Bart.—John Russell, Esquire, Clerk to the Signet.—Robert Dundas, of Arncliffe, Esquire.—Colin McKenzie, of Portmure, Esquire.—Henry Cockburn, Esq. Advocate.—Alexander Wood, Esquire, Advocate.—Sir Robert Dundas, of Beechwood, Bart.—Leonard Horner, Esquire, Merchant.—Alexander Irving, Esquire, Advocate.—Richard McKenzie, Esquire, Clerk to the Signet.—Sir Walter Scott, of Abbotsford, Bart.—Roger Aytoun, Esquire, Writer to the Signet.—Louis H. Ferrier, Esquire, Commissioner of Customs.—James Muncrieff, Esquire, Advocate.—George Wauchope, Esquire, Merchant.

JOHN RUSSELL, C. S. 34 Moray Place, Secretary.

THOMAS KINNEAR, Esquire, Banker, Royal Exchange, Treasurer.

JOHN RUSSELL, Secretary.

Edinburgh, 17th May, 1826.

SCOTLAND.

PLAN OF THE EDINBURGH ACADEMY.

The Directors being frequently applied to, by persons at a distance, for information respecting the Plan upon which the Academy is conducted, the expense, and other particulars, have printed the following statement, as the most convenient and satisfactory form of returning an answer to such applications.

The *Edinburgh Academy* is a Public Classical School, for Boys from eight to fifteen or sixteen years of age.

It was established by Private Subscription, the Subscribers having raised the necessary funds by Proprietary Shares, and the Proprietors were formed into a Body Corporate by a Royal Charter. The superintendence is vested in fifteen Directors, chosen by the Proprietors from among their own body.

The Establishment was opened on 1st of October 1824, and the studies of each year commence on the 1st of October, and continue till 1st August, when the Vacation begins. It consisted at that time of a Rector, four Classical Masters, a Master for the English Language and Literature, a Master for Arithmetic and Geometry, with two Assistants, and a Writing Master with two Assistants, a French Master is now added.

When a Boy commences his Classical Studies at the Academy, he enters the First or Junior Class. He continues to be taught exclusively by the same Master (in the Classical department) for four years, during which time he belongs to the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Classes, in successive years.

According to the original plan, a Boy at the commencement of the fifth year was to leave his former Classical Master, to enter the Rector's Class, and remain there two years, to complete the course of instruction, consisting of English, Latin, Greek, Geography, Writing, Arithmetic, and Geometry, which was usually followed, with the exception of Geometry, at the High School of Edinburgh, and other similar establishments in Scotland, previous to his going to the University. It has, however, been long a subject of regret with many parents in Scotland, that, by this system, their sons are obliged to terminate their school education at an age much too early for their entering upon the comparatively independent life of a College student, as this course of six years brings them to the University at the early age of fourteen, freed at once from the regular discipline of a School with this farther disadvantage, that the Session of the Colleges does not extend beyond six months.

Strongly impressed with the conviction of the evil consequences that have frequently resulted from this system, and urged by the solicitations of the parents of Boys at the Academy, the Directors have remodelled their system from the commencement of the fifth year's studies, and have now made arrangements for extending the course of instruction from six to seven years.

During the three last years, the Boys will belong to the Fifth, Sixth, and Seventh Classes, respectively. The Classical instruction of these Pupils will be divided between the Rector and the under Masters. Instead of all connexion ceasing, at the end of the fourth year, between the Pupil and the Master with whom he commenced his studies, as was the case in the former system, the Pupil will now be one half the time under the Master, in the fifth, sixth, and seventh years, and the other half under the Rector. The Rector will prescribe the Studies in each of these Classes, the Masters acting as his assistants in preparing the Pupils in that work which they are daily to go through with him. A very important benefit flows from this arrangement, for the Boys will have the advantage of continuing under a Master with whom they are perfectly acquainted, and who, by long experience, has acquired a thorough knowledge of the habits and dispositions of his Pupils; and the Master, besides the gratification of sharing more largely in the honour of turning out a distinguished Scholar, in place of being confined to the elementary Books, will have the satisfaction of accompanying his Pupils in their studies of the higher Classics.

The four junior Classes are examined for two hours once a fortnight by the Rector.

The state of advancement of each Class may partially be judged of by the following statements of the Studies of the first year of the Institution, 1824-25:

First Class—Latin—Ruddiman's Rudiments and Valpy's Delectus; Geography and Writing.

either Englishmen or Irishmen. The system, as a practical one, has in no instance been attacked by any statesman of eminence, really acquainted with the circumstances of the country to which it has been so long applied.

In regard to the county representation, it is easy to say, and being said, it sounds very odd to English ears, that the right to vote for the Member does not depend upon property in the soil, but only on feudal superiority over the soil, and that the property and the manorial rights in Scotland being, in innumerable instances, held by different persons, the majority of voters who really return the representative may not have one foot of land in the Shire among them all. This is the gist and cream of all that Lord Archibald Hamilton, &c. have been saying on this subject for the last ten years.—But what are the consequences to which this melancholy state of the law leads? Is there, or has there ever been, a Member sitting for a Scottish county in opposition to the wishes of the majority of the landed proprietors of that county? I have no belief that any man is hardy enough to answer that question in the affirmative. The Scotch County Members themselves are, without exception, the proprietors of large estates in the counties they represent, or the sons and brothers of those who are; and in every one instance the larger part of the landed wealth of the county has voted for the man that sits for it in St. Stephen's. Suppose now that any change were made—any rational change whatever—on the system of representation as to the county of Lanark, does any body believe that the effect would be taking the Lanarkshire seat away from the great house of Hamilton, who now hold it? or, if it had that effect, that the said seat could possibly pass into any other hands but those of the great house of Douglas, who alone think at present of contesting the matter with their Ducal cousins? If you bring in radical reform, that is another question; but I maintain, that, under the present plan, the landed property of Scotland is effectually represented in the County Members of Scotland.

For the present, however, the system of Borough Representation in Scotland, is made the grand topic of condemnation; and, in regard to Edinburgh in particular, we hear it stated as the prominent grievance that the Whig Barristers of that famous city have little or no influence in the choice of her representative in the House of Commons. The thirty-three Magistrates of Edinburgh, elected by the various trading corporations of that place, return the member, and Messrs. Jeffrey, Cockburn, &c. have scarcely a word to say as to the matter. The truth is, that Edinburgh was a town long before the lawyers of Scotland were a class of men of any consequence, and also long before, such as they were, they fixed their residence in Edinburgh. The method of electing the member for Edinburgh was fixed in those ancient times; and I wish to know why the election for Edinburgh should be taken from her merchants and given to her lawyers, before a similar change is introduced as to the election for the much more important city of London. I am certain that the Jeffreys, &c. have quite as much influence in Auld Reekie's political concerns as the Broughams here have in those of the ancient Augusta Trinobantum. But, after all, what has Mr. Abercrombie to say on behalf of his own noble and independent *three* electors at Calve? Does he mean to say that it is, after all, a less respectable thing to be elected by the thirty and three Bailies of Edinburgh, than to sit in the House of Commons in consequence of having the *management* of a single great English nobleman's estates? I should like to have an answer to that question from this 'Man of the People.'

But to come to the point—what would the Edinburgh lawyers have? Is not the representation of that town actually in the hands of one of the most dignified members of their own body—the descendant of a long line of eminent Scotch lawyers, and the holder at this moment of one of the highest legal offices in Scotland? I say nothing at present about the individual, but who can pretend that this is not the kind of person who, by their own shewing, ought to sit for the modern Athens? The truth is, that Edinburgh, Glasgow, and the other respectable cities of Scotland, have always been represented by gentlemen of rank and influence—great lawyers for Edinburgh—great merchants, or the like, for Glasgow, and so forth—and that if we really wish to see corruption in Scotland, we must look to the dirty little boroughs of Fife and the North, some four or five of which are filled periodically with whiskey and bribery, in order that the House of Commons may not want the proper allowance of '*Clodii accusare naves*.'

SCOTLAND.

REPRESENTATION OF SCOTLAND.

Extracts from a Letter in the "Representative."

The state of the Representation of Scotland has long been a favourite subject of vituperation in the House of Commons; and occasionally men, whose names cannot be mentioned without respect, have taken a share in the abuse. These, however, have always been

The Bank of Scotland first issued notes of 20s. in the year 1704; but the amount of notes in circulation previously to the Union was very limited.

The Bank of Scotland continued the only bank from the date of its establishment in 1695 to the year 1797.

In that year a charter of incorporation was granted to certain individuals named therein, for carrying on the business of banking, under the name of the Royal Bank, and subsequent charters were granted, to this establishment, enlarging its capital, which now amounts to one million and a half.

An act passed in the year 1765, is the first and most important act of the Legislature, which regulates the issue of promissory notes in Scotland.

It appears from its preamble, that a practice had prevailed in Scotland of issuing notes which circulated as specie, and which were made payable to the bearer on demand, or payable at the option of the issuer at the end of six months, with a sum equal to the legal interest from the demand to that time.

The act of 1765 prohibits the issue of notes, in which such an option as that before mentioned is reserved to the issuer. It requires that all notes of the nature of a bank note, and circulating like specie, should be paid on demand; and prohibits the issue of any promissory note of a sum less than 20s.

With respect to the issue of promissory notes in England, an act was passed in 1775, prohibiting the issue of any such under the sum of twenty shillings; and in the year 1777 restraints were imposed by law on the issue of notes between the sum of twenty shillings and five pounds, which were equivalent to the prohibition of such notes circulating as specie.

In the year 1797, when the restrictions as to payments in cash was imposed upon the bank of England the provisions of the act of 1777, with regard to the issue of notes between twenty shillings and five pounds, were suspended. By an act passed in the third year of his present Majesty, the suspension was continued until the 5th of January 1833, but now stands limited by an act of the present session to the 5th of April 1829.

The general result of the laws regulating the paper currency in the two countries respectively is this:—

That in Scotland the issue of promissory notes payable to the bearer on demand, for a sum of not less than twenty shillings, has been at all times permitted by law; nor has any act been passed limiting the period for which such issues shall continue legal in that country. In England the issue of promissory notes for a less sum than five pounds was prohibited by law from 1777 to the period of the bank restrictions in 1797. It has been permitted since 1797, and the permission will cease, as the law at present stands, in April 1829.

Your committee will proceed to give a general view, deduced from the examination of witnesses, and from the documents called for by the committee, of the laws which regulate the business of banking in Scotland, and of the mode in which it is at present conducted.

The general provisions of the law of Scotland, bearing upon this subject, are calculated to promote the solidity of banking establishments, by affording to the creditor great facilities for ascertaining the pecuniary circumstances of individual partners, and by making the private fortunes of those partners available for the discharge of the obligations of the bank with which they are connected.

There is no limitation upon the number of partners of which a banking company in Scotland may consist; and, excepting in the case of the bank of Scotland and the two chartered banks, which have very considerable capitals, the partners of all banking companies are bound jointly and severally; so that each partner is liable to the whole extent of his fortune for the whole debts of the Company. A creditor in Scotland is empowered to attach the real and heritable, as well as the personal estate of his debtor, for payment of personal debts, among which may be classed debts due by bills and promissory notes; and recourse may be had for the purpose of procuring payment, to each description of property at the same time.

Execution is not confined to the real property of a debtor merely during his life, but proceeds with equal effect upon that property after his decease.

The law relating to the establishment of records, gives ready means of procuring information with respect to the real and heritable estate of which any person in Scotland may be possessed. No purchase of an estate in that country is secure until the sines (that is the instrument certifying that actual delivery has been given) is put on record, nor is any mortgage effectual until the deed is in like manner recorded.

In the case of conflicting pecuniary claims upon real property, the preference is not regulated by the date of the transaction, but by the date of its record. These records are accessible to all persons, and thus the public can with ease ascertain the effective means which a banking company possesses of discharging its obligations; and the partners in that company are enabled to determine, with tolerable accuracy, the degree of risk and responsibility to which the private property of each is exposed.

There are other provisions of the law of Scotland which it is not necessary minutely to detail the general tendency of which is the same with those above mentioned.

There are at present 32 banks of Scotland, three of which are incorporated by act of parliament, or by royal charter, viz:—

The bank of Scotland, the Royal Bank of Scotland, and the bank called the British Linen Company.

The National Bank of Scotland has 1,238 partners.

The Commercial Bank of Scotland has 521.

The Aberdeen Town and County Bank has 446.

Of the remaining banks, there are three in which the number of partners exceeds 100; six in which the number is between 20 and 100; and seventeen in which the number falls short of 20.

The greater part of the Scotch banks have branches in connection with the principal establishment, each branch managed by an agent under the immediate directions of his employers, and giving security to them for his conduct.

The Bank of Scotland had, at the date of the last return received by your Committee, sixteen branches, established at various periods between the year 1774 and the present.

The British Linen Company had twenty seven branches.

The Commercial Banking Company in Edinburgh, thirty one.

The total number of branches established in various parts of Scotland, from the southern Border to Thurso, the most northerly point at which a Branch Bank exists, is one hundred and thirty three.

Speaking generally, the business of a Scotch Bank consists chiefly in the receipt and charge of sums deposited with the bank, on which an interest is allowed, and the issue of promissory notes upon the discount bills, and upon advances of money made by the bank upon what is called a cash credit.

The interest allowed by a Bank upon deposits varies from time to time, according to the current rate of interest which money generally bears. At present the interest allowed upon deposits is four per cent.

It has been calculated that the aggregate amount of the sums deposited with the Scotch Banks amounts to about twenty or twenty one millions. The precise accuracy of such an estimate cannot of course be relied on. The witness by whom it was made thought that the amount of deposits could not be less than sixteen

millions, nor exceed twenty-five millions, and took an intermediate sum as the probable amount.

Another witness, who had been connected for many years with different banks in Scotland, and has had experience of their concerns at Sterling, Edinburgh, Perth, Aberdeen, and Glasgow, stated that more than one half of the deposits in the banks with which he had been connected were in sums from ten pounds to two hundred pounds.

Being asked what class of the community it is that makes the small deposits, he gave the following answer, from which it appears that the mode of conducting this branch of the banking business in Scotland has long given to that country many of the benefits derivable from the establishment of Saving Banks:

'Question—What class of the community is it that makes the smaller deposits?'

Answer—They are generally the labouring classes in towns like Glasgow. In country places like Perth and Aberdeen it is from servants and fishermen, and just that class of the community who save from their earnings, in mere trifles, small sums, till they come to be a bank deposit. There is now a facility for their placing money in the Provident banks, which receive money till the deposit amounts to ten pounds. When it comes to ten pounds it is equal to the minimum of a bank deposit. The system of banking in Scotland is just an extension of the Provident bank system. Half-yearly or yearly these depositors come to the bank and add the savings of their labour, with the interest that has accrued upon the deposits from the previous half year or year, to the principal; and in this way it goes on without being at all reduced, accumulating till the depositor is able either to buy or build a house, when it comes to be one or two or three hundred pounds, or till he is able to commence business as a master in the line in which he has hitherto been a servant. A great part of the depositors of the bank are of that description, and a great part of the most thriving of our farmers and manufacturers have arisen from such beginnings.'

On sums advanced by the banks on the discount of bills of exchange, and upon cash credits, an interest of five per cent. is at present charged.

A cash credit is an undertaking on the part of a bank to advance to an individual such sums of money as he may from time to time require, not exceeding in the whole a certain definite amount, the individual to whom the credit is given entering into a bond with securities, generally two in number, for the repayment on demand of the sums actually advanced, with interest upon each issue from the day on which it is made.

Cash credits are rarely given for sums below one hundred pounds; they generally range from two to five hundred pounds, sometimes reaching one thousand pounds, and occasionally a larger sum.

The bank allows the party having the cash credit to liquidate any portion of his debt to the bank, at any time it may suit his convenience, and reserves to itself the power of cancelling, whenever it shall think fit, the credit granted.

With the view of ascertaining the total amount of paper currency of Scotland at different periods and of estimating the variations in its amount, a letter was addressed by the chairman of the committee to each bank in Scotland, requesting information as to the amount of notes issued below and above five pounds, and outstanding at certain given periods.

The Banks were informed that this communication would be considered by the chairman as one entirely of a confidential nature; that he would make no disclosure of the amount of the issues of any single bank, but collect from the returns the general result, and present that result to the committee.

An answer has been received to this communication from all the banks in Scotland, with one exception. Some of the banks that have made returns have not been able to distinguish the notes under and above five pounds; where that distinction has not been made the proportions have been estimated by a computation framed upon the proportions that appear in the returns of those banks which were enabled to distinguish their notes below five pounds from those above that sum, and the result is stated in red ink.

Three of the banks from which returns have been received have omitted to state the amount of their present circulation; that circulation has been taken, in the subjoined general estimate, on an average between the highest and the lowest amount of the aggregate circulation of those banks respectively during 1825.

Subject to the foregoing explanation, the following is the general account, deduced from the return made by each bank, of the paper circulation of Scotland at the different periods referred to in the account.

An ACCOUNT of the amount of Bankers' Notes circulating in Scotland, showing the highest and lowest amount in the year 1815, 1821, 1823, 1824, and 1825; and also of the amount in circulation at the latest period in 1826, to which the account can be made up; distinguishing the amount of notes under 5l. from those of 5l. and upwards.

1815.—Highest Amount—5l. and upwards, 1,365,998; under 5l. 2,185,498; total, 3,551,496. Lowest amount—5l. and upwards, 908,306; under 5l. 1,868,324; total, 2,776,630.

1821.—Highest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,369,533; under 5l. 1,935,224; total, 3,244,759. Lowest amount—5l. and upwards, 963,113; under 5l. 1,597,302; total, 2,560,445.

1823.—Highest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,396,390; under 5l. 2,065,622; total, 3,462,012. Lowest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,006,605; under 5l. 1,706,631; total, 2,713,236.

1824.—Highest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,701,196; under 5l. 2,296,492; total, 3,997,688. Lowest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,095,190; under 5l. 1,764,825; total, 2,860,015.

1825.—Highest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,946,721; under 5l. 2,736,491; total, 4,683,212. Lowest amount—5l. and upwards, 1,323,451; under 5l. 2,110,648; total, 3,434,099.

Amount of notes at Present in circulation.—Amount of Banks which have made the return—5l. and upwards, 1,125,743; under 5l. 1,903,232; total, 3,028,997. Three of the Banks who have made returns have omitted to state the amount of their present circulation. The amount of their aggregate circulation during 1825 was, at the highest, 311,646; at the lowest, 248,441; the average of these two sums is therefore taken as the probable amount of their present circulation—5l. and upwards, 104,195; under 5l. 175,992, total, 280,187. Probable amount at present in circulation—5l. and upwards, 1,229,838; under 5l. 2,079,244; total, 3,309,082.

Two of the Banking Companies in Scotland have made no return whatever.

It will be seen from the above return, that the present amount of the paper currency of Scotland, being in fact (with the exception of silver) nearly the whole currency of that country, is computed to be three million three hundred and nine thousand pounds, of which two millions and seventy nine thousand pounds are in notes below five pounds.

It has been calculated by Dr. Adam Smith, that the amount of gold and silver coin current in Scotland before the Union, and these

* The banks have not all returned their circulation, distinguishing the notes under and above 5l. Where that distinction has not been made, the proportions have been estimated by a computation framed upon those which have been returned by the banks who did make the distinction.

SCOTCH AND IRISH PAPER CURRENCY.

Report from the Select Committee of the House of Commons on Promissory Notes in Scotland and Ireland.

The Select Committee appointed to inquire into the state of the Circulation in Promissory Notes under the value of Five Pounds in Scotland and Ireland, and to report their observations and opinion thereupon to the House, with reference to the expediency of making any alteration in the laws now in force relating thereto, and to whom the several petitions relating to the currency of Scotland and Ireland were referred, have, pursuant to the order of the House, inquired accordingly, and have agreed to the following report:—

As it appears to your committee to be advisable to consider the state of circulation in Scotland separately from that in Ireland, they will in the first instance report the result of the inquiries which they have made in reference to the case of Scotland.

The first notice of banking in Scotland which occurs in the Statute Book is an act of King William the Third, passed in the year 1695, under which the Bank of Scotland was established. By this Act an exclusive privilege of banking was conferred upon that Bank; it being provided 'that for the period of twenty-one years from the 17th July 1695, it should not be lawful for any other person to set up a distinct company of Bank within the kingdom of Scotland, besides those persons in whose favour this act is granted.' No renewal of the exclusive privilege took place after the expiration of the twenty-one years.

constituting nearly the whole circulation of the country, about one million sterling. He observes, that the amount of silver coin brought into the Bank of Scotland, for the purpose of being recoinced immediately after the Union, was four hundred and eleven thousand pounds sterling; and that it appears from the ancient records of the Mint in Scotland, that the value of the gold annually coined somewhat exceeded the annual coinage of the silver. He calculates, therefore, the total amount of gold and silver in circulation, about the year 1707, at one million.

The same authority, speaking of the year 1775, estimates the whole circulation of Scotland at that time to be about two millions, 'of which,' he observes, 'that part which consists in gold and silver most probably does not amount to half a million.'

Your Committee trust that they have not improperly outstepped the limits of their duty, in submitting to the House this brief review of the laws by which the business of banking in Scotland is regulated, and of the mode which it is at present conducted; it is a subject not adverted to in the Reports of previous Committees, and it appeared therefore to your Committee that it might be convenient to prefix a general account of the banking establishments and currency of Scotland to their observations on that important question, which was the more immediate object of the reference made to your Committee.

They consider that question in substance to be, whether Scotland shall be permitted to retain the privilege which she has hitherto had, of maintaining a paper circulation for sums between twenty shillings and five pounds: or whether she shall be required at some period, to be now ascertained by law, to provide, in the same manner in which England has been called upon to provide, a metallic currency? Although the promissory notes issued in Scotland are convertible into gold at the will of the holder, yet it appears to your Committee to be proved by experience that the permission to issue notes of an amount sufficiently low to perform the office of coin will practically exclude that coin from circulation, notwithstanding that such notes may be payable at the will of the holder; and it must be assumed that under the operation of the law, now applicable to the two countries respectively, England will, after the year 1829, have a metallic circulation for the payment of all sums below five pounds, and Scotland a circulation of paper alone, for all payments of not less than twenty shillings.

Whether this state of things can be allowed to exist consistently with equal justice to the inhabitants of the two countries—whether the stability of the present system of paper currency in Scotland can be insured if coin be not in circulation as its basis—whether that system can co-exist with a metallic currency in England, without degrading the currency of this country, are the important considerations which must be naturally weighed before a final decision can be satisfactorily pronounced.

The presumption, on general principles, appears to your Committee to be in favour of an extension to other parts of the United Kingdom of the rule which has been determined to apply to England. Provision would thus be made for equally apportioning among all parts of the empire that change, which is inseparable in the first instance from the substitution of a metallic in the room of a paper currency. The wider the field over which a metallic circulation is spread, the greater will be the security against its disturbance from the operation of internal or external causes, and the lighter on any particular part will be the pressure incidental to a sudden contraction of currency. The business of banking, and probably of all other commercial transactions connected with it, would be conducted on a more equal footing, in respect to profit under a system of currency common to all parts of the empire, than under one which should confine to particular portions of it the privilege of issuing a certain description of paper. In proportion as the office of coining shall be found to be more difficult of execution, and to be less frequently committed than the office of forgery, in that degree, upon moral considerations, will a metallic circulation be preferable to one of paper.

These appear to your Committee to be the principal reasons in favour of extending to Scotland a system of currency which the legislature has resolved to re-establish in England, reasons which seem decisive in favour of such an extension, unless they can be counter-weighed by the proof of some peculiar circumstances in the condition of Scotland, justifying a special exception in her behalf, and by a strong presumption that such an exception can be admitted without prejudice to the interests of other parts of the empire.

The main object of the witnesses from Scotland, who were examined before your Committee, has been to prove the claim of Scotland to this exception. Their opinion, with very slight shades of difference, is decidedly averse to any change in the laws which have so long regulated the issue of promissory notes in that country. In estimating, however, the weight due to their opinions as authority, it ought to be borne in mind that a great part of the witnesses from Scotland were gentlemen immediately connected with some of the banks in that country, subject, therefore, to the prepossessions which naturally spring from a long connexion with existing establishments, and from a warm interest in the continuance of their prosperity.

It is not improbable that, had the time permitted it, your Committee would have extended still further inquiries; and they deem it on that account the more incumbent upon them to state the general nature of the testimony upon which they have come to their present conclusions.

The witnesses examined by your Committee, with reference to the state of the circulation in Scotland, were seven gentlemen standing in various relations to some of the banks in Scotland:—

Mr. Kirkman Finlay, a merchant at Glasgow,
Mr. Gibson Craig, a writer to the signet in Edinburgh,
Mr. Hadden, a manufacturer in Aberdeen,
Lieut. Col. Campbell, factor to the Duke of Argyll,
Mr. Gladstone, a member of the House,
Mr. Moss, a banker of Liverpool; and
Mr. Birkbeck, a banker in the West Riding of Yorkshire,
were examined as to the manner of conducting the business of banking and commercial transactions connected with it in Lancashire. Mr. Gladstone was enabled also to give evidence upon some points relating to the circulation and commerce of Scotland.

Three of the Directors of the Bank of England gave their evidence chiefly as to the bearing which a paper circulation in Scotland might have upon the interest of the Bank of England, after the re-establishment of a metallic currency in this country.

The grounds relied upon by the witnesses from Scotland, to prove that it is neither necessary nor expedient to alter the laws which permit the issue of small notes in that country, appear to be the following:—

That these laws, so far as they relate to notes between the sum of twenty shillings and five pounds, payable on demand, have remained unaltered since the first institution of banking in Scotland.

That, coincident with the present system of currency, if not immediately owing to its effects, there has been a great and progressive increase in the manufactures, the agriculture, the commerce, the population, and the general wealth of the country.

That during the civil commotions of the last century, in the rebellions of 1715 and 1745, the confidence in paper securities in Scotland was not shaken; and that the Scotch banks maintained their stability, and were not called upon for any extraordinary issue of gold in exchange for their notes, during the shocks to which mercantile credit was exposed in this country in the years 1793, 1797, and

more recently in 1825. That it cannot be assumed, therefore, that a circulation of specie is necessary in Scotland for the purpose of guarding against the effects of sudden panic.

That while Scotland had a paper currency for the discharge of all sums above twenty shillings, England had at least, for twenty years previously to the Bank restriction, a currency consisting of the precious metals, to the exclusion by law of notes below five pounds. That these different systems co-existed, and that no proof can be adduced that the paper circulation of Scotland displaced or interfered, in any material degree, with the metallic currency of England.

That from the date of the first establishment of a bank in Scotland to the present time, the instances of the actual failure of a Scotch bank have been extremely rare; and that there have been only two instances in which the creditors did not ultimately receive the whole amount of the principle and interest of their debt.

Lastly, that the inducement to the Scotch banks to continue their branch banks in many remote parts of the country in which they now exist, would be destroyed; and that the whole system of deposits and cash credits would be most materially affected, if the banks were compelled to forego the profit now derived from the issue of notes below five pounds.

For the opinions in detail of the witnesses from Scotland, on these and other points connected with the small note circulation in that country, your Committee must refer to the evidence annexed to this report. So far as the interests of the Bank of England are concerned, it will be seen that the directors of that bank, who were examined before your Committee, urge no objection to the continuance of the present system in Scotland, provided that the paper circulation of Scotland can be effectually restrained within the limits of that country.

Upon a review of the evidence tendered to your Committee, and forming their judgment upon that evidence, your Committee cannot advise that a law should now be passed prohibiting from a period to be therein determined, the future issue in Scotland of notes below five pounds.

There are, in the opinion of your Committee, sufficient grounds in the experience of the past, for permitting another trial to be made of the compatibility of a paper circulation in Scotland with a circulation of specie in this country.

Looking at the amount of notes current in Scotland below the value of five pounds, and comparing it with the total amount of the paper currency of that country, it is very difficult to foresee the consequences of a law which should prohibit the future issue of notes constituting so large a proportion of the whole circulation.

Your Committee are certainly not convinced that it would affect the cash credits to the extent apprehended by some of the witnesses, but they are unwilling, without stronger proof of necessity, to incur the risk of deranging, from any cause whatever, a system admirably calculated, in their opinion, to economise the use of capital, to excite and cherish a spirit of useful enterprise, and even to promote the moral habits of the people, by the direct inducements which it holds out to the maintenance of a character for industry, integrity and prudence.

At the same time that your Committee recommend that the system of currency which has for so long a period prevailed in Scotland, should not under existing circumstances be disturbed, they feel it to be their duty to add, that they have formed their judgment upon a reference to the past, and upon the review of a state of things which may hereafter be materially varied by the increasing wealth and commerce of Scotland, by the rapid extension of her commercial intercourse with England, and by the new circumstances that may affect that intercourse after the re-establishment of a metallic currency in this country.

Apart from these general considerations, bearing upon the conclusion at which they have arrived, there are two circumstances to which your Committee must more particularly advert.

It is evident that if the small notes issued in Scotland should be current beyond the Border, they would have the effect, in proportion as their circulation should extend itself, of displacing the specie, and even in some degree the local currency of England. Such an interference with the system established for England, would be a manifest and gross injustice to the bankers of this part of the empire. If it should take place, and if it should be found impossible to frame a law consistent with sound and just principles of legislation effectually restricting the circulation of Scotch notes within the limits of Scotland, there will be, in the opinion of your Committee, no alternative but the extension to Scotland of the principle which the legislature has determined to apply to this country.

The other circumstances to which your Committee meant to refer, as bearing materially upon their present decision, will arise in the event of a considerable increase in the crime of forgery.

Your Committee called for returns of the number of prosecutions and convictions for forgery, and the offence of passing forged notes during the last twenty years in Scotland, which returns will be found in the appendix.

There appears to have been during that period no prosecution for the crime of forgery; to have been eighty six prosecutions for the offence of issuing forged promissory notes—fifty-two convictions, eight instances in which the capital sentence of the law had been carried into effect.

It ought not to escape observation, that out of the total number of prosecutions for issuing forged notes in the last twenty years, thirty-eight have been instituted in the years of 1823, 1824, and 1825, a fact which seems to warrant the apprehension that the crime of forgery is upon the increase in Scotland. It ought, however, to be observed, that the return does not specify whether the forged notes for the issue of which prosecutions have taken place, were in all instances notes of the Bank of Scotland. It is possible, therefore, that some of the prosecutions may have been directed against forgeries committed on the Bank of England, or on Banks other than the Banks of Scotland.

Your Committee will here close their observations with respect to the circulation of Scotland. They are well aware of the great advantage that would result from being enabled, in a matter of this nature, to express a clear and decisive opinion, unembarrassed by any qualification of reserve; but they consider it to be their duty, in a complicated question that involves many important considerations, and upon which the decision must be subject to future contingencies, to present the whole of those considerations fairly to the House, and to qualify their present conclusions by a reference to possible circumstances, by the occurrence of which they might be materially affected.

IRELAND.

With respect to the circulation of Ireland, the inquiries of your Committee have been less extensive than those which they have instituted with respect to Scotland.

The first law in Ireland which restrained the negotiations of promissory notes, was an Act passed in the Irish Parliament in the year 1799.

The preamble recites, that various notes, bills of exchange, and drafts for money, have been for some time past circulated in lieu of cash, to the great prejudice of trade and public credit; and that many of such notes are made payable under certain terms with which the poorer classes of manufacturers and others cannot comply, unless by submitting to great extortion and abuse. It adds,

that the issue of such notes has very much tended to increase the pernicious crime of forgery; and the Act proceeds to apply to notes between the value of five pounds and twenty shillings, similar restrictions to those which had been applied to such notes issued in England, by the Act which passed in the year 1777. It permits, however, during the suspension of cash payments by the Bank of Ireland, the issue of bank post-bills, bills of exchange and drafts, under certain regulations, for any sums not less than three guineas. This Act did not extend to the Bank of Ireland.

In 1805 this and some other Acts which had passed in the interim relating to the issue of small notes were repealed, and notes under twenty shillings, which had been previously permitted under certain regulations by the Act of 1799, were declared void.

There is at present no law in force imposing any limitation to the period for which notes for a sum not less than twenty shillings may be issued in Ireland.

A tolerably correct estimate of the amount of promissory notes above and below five pounds, circulating in Ireland, may be formed from the subjoined returns made by the Bank of Ireland, and by other banks at present established in that country.

BANK OF IRELAND NOTES.

1. An account of the average amount of the Bank of Ireland notes of five pounds and upwards (including bank post bills), for the years 1820, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25—Notes and post bills of five pounds and upwards (Irish currency) 3,646,660 19 6

2. An account of the average amount of the Bank of Ireland notes under the value of five pounds (including bank post bills) for the years 1820, 21, 22, 23, 24, and 25—Notes and post bills under the value of five pounds (Irish currency) 11,643,828 0 5

An Account of the amount of Bankers' Notes circulated in Ireland, exclusive of those of the Banks of Ireland, shewing the Highest and Lowest Amount in the Years 1816, 1821, 1823, 1824, and 1825; and also of the Amount in Circulation at the latest Period in 1826, to which the Amount can be made up; distinguishing the Amount of Notes under 5*l.* from those of 5*l.* and upwards.

1815.—Highest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 44,652; under 5*l.* 293,530; total, 343,182.—Lowest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 33,182; under 5*l.* 198,433; total, 231,615.

1821.—Highest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 58,749; under 5*l.* 874,763; total, 933,512. Lowest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 46,494; under 5*l.* 582,196; total, 627,690.

1823.—Highest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 66,396; under 5*l.* 1,023,201; total, 1,079,597. Lowest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 44,910; under 5*l.* 658,410; total, 733,320.

1824.—Highest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 76,247; under 5*l.* 1,110,170; total, 1,185,417. Lowest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 57,035; under 5*l.* 718,084; total, 775,119.

1825.—Highest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 106,005; under 5*l.* 1,359,054; total, 1,465,059. Lowest Amount—5*l.* and upwards, 65,987; under 5*l.* 854,126; total, 920,113.

1826—Amount at present in Circulation—5*l.* and upwards, 71,658; under 5*l.* 1,063,960; total, 738,618.

The amounts stated in this account are made up from all the returns that have been yet received from bankers in Ireland, nine in number, of which six only issue notes.

The amount of each description of notes in circulation, by four of these banks, is calculated according to the proportions which are stated by each bank to be usually in circulation; two banks only giving the exact amount of each description of notes.

It will appear from the evidence, that a practice prevails in Ireland of issuing notes for the payment of sums between one and two pounds, for three guineas and other fractional sums.

Your Committee see no public advantage arising out of this practice, and they are of opinion that it ought to be discontinued, as it tends to dispense with the necessity of silver coin, and practically to exclude it from circulation.

Your Committee hesitate in the present imperfect state of their information, to pronounce a decisive opinion upon the general measures which it may be fitting to adopt with respect to the paper currency of Ireland.

Although they are inclined to think that it would not be advisable to take any immediate step for the purpose of preserving the issues of small notes in Ireland, their impression undoubtedly is, that a metallic currency ought, ultimately, to be the basis of the circulation in that country.

It will probably be deemed advisable to fix a definite, though not an early period, at which the circulation in Ireland of all notes below five pounds shall cease; and it is deserving of consideration whether measures might not be adopted in the interim for the purpose of insuring such a final result by gradual, though cautious, advance towards it.

SCOTLAND.

A WALK THROUGH ETTRICK FOREST

As this district, the name of which conjures up so many historical and classic recollections, has never before been described by any professed or publishing tourist, we trust that the following sketch, with which a friend of ours, of no mean celebrity in the literary world, has obligingly furnished us, may not be unacceptable to our readers.

To the Editor of the Edinburgh Weekly Chronicle.

Bodsbeck, Oct. 27, 1826

SIR—According to my promise when I left Edinburgh, I send you a short sketch of my jaunt through some of the classic valleys of the south.

G. and I left Leith together on the morning of the 27th of September, and reached the ancient burgh of Selkirk, the principal town of Ettrick Forest, to dinner. Next morning, we set out on our long-anticipated tour, my heart dancing with joy at the prospect of viewing the scenes so celebrated in both ancient and modern song. On leaving the town we instantly found ourselves on Philiphaugh, the scene of the last pitched battle fought in Ettrick Forest, when the great Montrose suffered a signal defeat—a defeat which forever ended a course of victories so rapid and absolute, that they perhaps stand unequalled in the annals of warfare. I examined the ground most minutely. One would have thought no camp could have been better chosen, either for action or retreat; and as for a surprise, who could have supposed it possible! But the hand of Heaven was against Montrose. The race of his unfortunate master was nearly run, and the defeat of the hero was necessary to the winding up of a bloody drama.

We next visited the fairy scenes of Carterhaugh, the haunts of the unearthly Tam Lin, and the habitation of the angelic Mary Lee. These elfin haunts have of late years been planted anew, and form little dells of the most romantic description.—The ducal palace of Bowhill has a grand and imposing appearance as you approach it from Selkirk; but on coming in front, it somehow comes short of expectation. As a rural retreat it is delightful. All with whom we conversed in that country are loud in the praises of their young chief. He has a difficult task to enter on, so extravagant are the expectations entertained of him.—We were conducted by a most romantic walk, that bears the name of the late lamented Duchess, to the stately old castle of Newark, the retreat of the celebrated outlaw Murray, and the hall in which “The Lay of the Last Minstrel” was sung. Every step here is on classic ground. On our way we visited the little farm-steading of Fowlshiels, the birth-place of our traveller Mungo Park, and the home of his youth. His younger brother still occupies the farm as his fathers did before him. Our inquiries about the celebrated traveller were without end. We met with one woman had known Park from infancy. To an inquiry about his appearance she replied—“He was just like the rest of the family—they war a’ the like ane anither except Jock—if I mist right, Mungo was likest Edom, him it’s the doctor, but rather mair airn coloured”—“Was he reckoned very clever at home?”—“We reckoned him nae grit shakes for a doctor—he was aye sae much ta’en up about other things. If he could ha’e gotten a bare to track or a smart to howk, or e’en a puir bit useless wad the sma’ fad

might as well graze on for him. An' as for a sawmott, he had hae gaen gaen the logs for it ony day. Pair follow! To a question if he was tall and athletic, she answered that "he was a stout strapping carl, and never kenn'd what fear was."

Passing the handsome modern house of Broadmeadows, and some private farm-houses, in a richly wooded and romantic country, we reached the Manse of Yarrow in the evening, and to the hospitality of the worthy clergyman were indebted for quarters. The parish church of Yarrow, now under repair, is about 180 years old, yet all the materials and walls were so good, that judges agreed that no new one could be built so substantial. The new windows have been cut out with chisels, the walls being more difficult to pierce than a solid rock. From the Manse we next day proceeded westward, and found the face of the country at every step becoming more naked and sterile in appearance; and the first and prevailing feeling of every traveller must be astonishment that the noble proprietor of this fine rural district has not extended his plantations of wood into it, there being so many fine points and insulated little hills, which, if covered with foliage, would beautify the scene exceedingly.—The first objects of antiquity that attracted our regard were two huge obelisks, facing each other at a quarter of a mile's distance, on a moor above the church. The westmost of these stones has one side covered all over with a sort of unintelligible Latin, miserably engraved in Saxon characters. The greater part is quite illegible; but it appears that a John Scott, and his brother or brethren, either fell or were buried there. It is supposed by the country people to have been the scene of a mortal encounter between some young men of the families of Harden and Gilmanscleugh, celebrated in a very old song.—The *dorydens* of Yarrow—and in a modern ballad by the Ettrick Shepherd! The ridge where these obelisks stand is denominated *Annan Street!* a most unaccountable name for a bare moor on the banks of the Yarrow, fifty miles from the Border burgh of that name.

Proceeding westward we passed a great number of snug cottages possessed by the Duke of Buccleugh's tenants; then, close below, the farm-house of Mount-Benger, the present residence of the famous Shepherd. G. proposed calling on him, but I positively refused, not having any introduction. We stopped, however, at a small public house on his farm, and sent our names with an invitation for him to dine with us, but it was not accepted; at which my friend G. was more disappointed than I could have conceived it possible for a man to be.

Leaving Mount-Benger we crossed the Douglas, a considerable stream issuing from the mountains towards the north. It is noted for abundance of trout and salmon, and has its name from an old residence of the Black Douglas on its banks. It is the scene of a romantic ballad in the Border Minstrelsy. From thence we went and viewed the tower of Dryhope, the birth-place and maiden residence of the celebrated beauty Mary Scott, the Flower of Yarrow, in which there is nothing to be seen but a tall square keep, like all the baronial towers in that country. We then came to St. Mary's Loch, a fine sheet of water, surrounded with hills of a bolder outline than any we had yet seen. It is a favourite resort of the genteel company who, in the summer season visit St. Roman's Well, that sacred and healthful village vulgarly ycleped Innerethien. We left the road to view the grave of Mess John Burman—

That wizard priest whose bones are thrust
From company of holy dust

Has been opened of late years by some gentlemen from Edinburgh, and a part of the wizzard's remains and relics of his enchantment gear were discovered. A little way to the westward we came to the ruins of St. Mary's Chapel, with its solitary burial-ground, situated in a little green retired spot, among dark woods—a fit scene for wild and melancholy cogitations—

Where still, beneath the hallowed soil,
The peasant rests him from his toil;
And dying, bids his bones be laid
Where e'er his simple fathers prayed

It continues the burial-place of all the old families of note in the neighbourhood. Lintons, Scotts, Andersons, and Biddens are the prevailing names on the grave-stones.—About a mile farther west we left the road a considerable way to view the grave-stone of a celebrated outlaw put down by James the Fifth. It is situated in the middle of the outlaw's own chapel, and has a very antique appearance, being engraved only half round the edge in Saxon characters, bearing, as we read it, that "HERE LYS PERIS OF COIBURN AND BOUTLAW."

About a mile still further west, in the wild valley of Meggatdale, were shown the gold mines wrought by Queen Mary and her father, a great expense, who were, without doubt, imposed on by a rascal Doncasterwivel named Bulner, whose account of the mine is a constant. From that we went and viewed the old castle of Crawford, long a hunting residence of the kings of Scotland. It has been a large building with two towers. Queen Mary was the last sovereign who visited it for the purpose of the chase.—We tarried at Crawford all night with a Mr. Anderson, a very extensive farmer, from whom we got a deal of information about the sheep markets—of the most dismal cast. Next morning we returned to the side of the lake, and soon after came on Chapelhope and Kirkenhope, famous for being the last haunts of the persecuted Covenanters, and residences of Wat Laidlaw and Davie Tait; and there we climbed a hill and took our farewell look of the *braes of Yarrow*.—It is a rural country, and nothing but a pastoral country; a scene of general stillness and repose, and those who expect to see any thing will be disappointed; the very flocks and herds seem oppressed with indolence, and at a loss how to drive away time; and the myriads of black and brown game, which are nearly as plentiful as the sheep, seemed to eye us rather with looks of curiosity than any degree of terror. St. Mary's Lake, with its banks, would be a fine scene if well wooded; but as it is,

There's nothing left to Fanny's guess;
You see that all is loneliness.

The next came to Birkhill, a shepherd's cot on the greatest height of the Ettrick Forest and Moffatdale in Dumfriesshire, and at this cottage we got very excellent accommodation. From thence we passed forth to Dob's Linn, a tremendous gulf, in which our guide showed us the cave of the Covenanters, and also the remains of the cottage from which

Bob Dob and Davy Dinn
Dang the deil o'er Dob's Linn.

From thence we went to Loch Skene, a scene of darkness and gloom, where, a few years ago, a pair of lordly eagles had their nest, who made many a fell swoop upon the lambs in the neighbouring glens. The female one was at length winged by a shepherd with a rifle shot, and taken captive; the widower, after a few days of dismal screaming, left this scene of his butcheries and his

*The name may have reference to some person or family. An is an ancient family name. Agnes Annand, heiress of Lochmaben, according to Douglas of Glenbervie, married the Anglo-Norman Bruce who settled in Scotland, and was the progenitor of the famous King Robert.

love for some distant region. The loch is famous for the abundance and variety of its trout.

Issuing from the loch is the celebrated cataract of the Grey Mare's Tail, of such a height that from beneath it is visible only a short way up; there is the roaring sound without the sight of it; a view of the long, deep, and perpendicular gash it has made in the side of the mountain conjures up in the mind horrors innumerable; and to look into the profound abyss into which the stream plunges, and where it boils into foam, destroying the very fish that fall with it, would require nerves tough as those of the Nemean lion. A single look into it dizzied my brain, from the effects of which it has not yet quite recovered. What a manifest want of wood is here! It is unaccountably strange how a proprietor so liberal and enlightened should have neglected to beautify this scene. Were the overhanging precipices planted to the top, and a foot-path cut along the western bank to lead up in front of the cataract, all other waterfalls in Scotland would sink to insignificance when compared to it in sublimity. The whole of the scenery of Moffatdale is romantically grand, and the view from this farm-house particularly striking.—Between this and Moffat, six miles distant, is the beautiful Craigieburn, the name of one of Burns's lyrics, where resided the once beautiful, the afterwards unfortunate Miss L., on whom the poem was composed. Her fate, as well as that of her portent admirer, is too painful to be contemplated; and, therefore, obeying to the utmost of my power your injunction to brevity, I here cut short my narrative.

Y. Z.

SCOTLAND.

MONUMENT TO MR. WATT.

The following is the speech of Mr. Watt, at the meeting in Greenock on Wednesday last, for erecting a Monument to the memory of his illustrious father:—

Hon. Chairman and Gentlemen—I am too deeply impressed with the honour you have done to the memory of my father, as well as by the kind consideration which has induced you to concede all differences of opinion to what you understood to be my wishes, to be able to do justice to my feelings upon an occasion so peculiarly interesting to me as a son; and, unused as I am to public speaking, I must trust to your indulgence, whilst I endeavour to comprise in few words what I am desirous of saying.—The connection of my father's immediate ancestors and of himself with the town of Greenock and the kindness and respect he had uniformly experienced from its inhabitants, had created a strong desire in his mind to contribute to the extension of the only institution you possessed of a literary and scientific description. This he in a small degree evinced, by a donation to your library some years ago; but I have had reason to infer, from conversations with him upon that subject, that his wishes were of a more extensive nature, and since his death I have felt that the duty of carrying them into effect devolved upon me as a sacred trust. For this, however, no very fitting or convenient opportunity presented itself, until the period when a general expression of the public opinion upon his merits manifested itself, and I had the gratification of observing that the inhabitants of his native town were among the foremost to do honour to his memory, and had raised a sum of money for the erection of a monument which should claim him as 'their own.' From that moment I entertained a latent hope they might give the preference to a work from the chisel of Chantrey, which, whilst from its individuality and excellence it conferred the highest honour upon its object, would afford me an immediate and additional incentive for presenting a sum of money, to be applied to the erection of a handsome building for a library, in which such monument might be most appropriately placed, and most effectually preserved. The Hon. Chairman has just announced with an energy and warmth of feeling towards my father, and of consideration for myself, which have been most gratifying, your resolution of devoting the sum you have so liberally contributed to the erection of a marble statue, by the eminent artist whose talents have been already so successfully employed upon his departed friend, my father. It now remains for me to do my part; and I have in consequence the honour of stating to the meeting, my intention of presenting the sum of Two Thousand Pounds, to be employed in the erection of a building for a library, of which your statue will form the principal ornament; and I wish to leave it open to others to add to this sum, if their views should extend further, so as to combine with it reading rooms, and a house or apartments for the librarian. I did mean to have made some stipulations with regard to the site and plan of the building, but the extreme liberality with which every wish of mine has been anticipated by the Hon. Chairman, convinces me that I cannot effect my objects better than by leaving both in his hands. I would only suggest, that Mr. Chantrey should be consulted as to the mode of placing and lighting the statue. I cannot conclude without expressing the heartfelt satisfaction with which I have this day personally witnessed the high estimation in which my father's memory is held in this his native town, and without tendering my most grateful thanks to the Chairman and to the Meeting, for the honour conferred upon him, as well as for the greatest courtesy and kindness I have myself experienced.

Tuesday, a very sedate, contemplative-looking man from the Castle Hill, was charged, at the Edinburgh police office, by his own wife with having robbed her of a pillow-slip. "I took awa' the pillow slip," said the man, "nae doubt o' that, and my necessities compelled me to pawn it; but what o' that? I hae been in the peaceable and uninterrupted possession o' that pillow-slip for a lang years; and

when I pawned it I thought I was lawfully disposing o' my ain property." "But," asked the Superintendent, "is not the pillow-slip your wife's?" "Her's!" replied the man; "she may ca' the hail bed her ain, for weel I wat she occupies the best half o't—(a laugh)—She may ca' my hat her ain, my coat her ain, na, my very breeks her ain, for troth she has lang'd sair to wear them"—(Great laughter.) "But did not this pillow-slip belong to your wife before you married her?"—"It did e'en sae; and it was a' the tocher I gat wi' her. Her father—a dounce honest man he was, could gi'e her nae mair." So great now was the laughter in Court, that the Judge could scarcely be heard explaining to the complainer that what was her goodman's was his and what was hers was his also. On this being explained to her, she thought of doing the amiable, and, with a most benign and gracious air, said, she could not think of having her husband punished, and therefore would forgive him.

As a proof of the extraordinary plans adopted by the smugglers to bring their whiskey into town, a certain excise officer, stationed in the neighbourhood of Aberdeen, relates the following story:—

"Having notice that a quantity of illicit spirits was lodged about the bridge of Dee, I set out to watch, as I was given to understand it would be removed that night. Calling at a house there, I encountered a well known smuggler.—'Well, said I, you are not here for nothing—what have you got?' 'A smuggle,' said he, 'but ye'll be nae better o't; we'll tak' it awa the day.' 'Not across the bridge then, said I.' 'Aye, tho', said the man. I was struck with his boldness, but being sure of my out look—'Come,' said I. 'I'll bet you a bowl of the best of it, in toddy, that you don't.' 'Done,' said the smuggler, and we separated for the present. I hung on for a few hours about the bridge, on which I then took my seat. I had not been long there when a few decent looking men made their appearance, bearing on their shoulders a coffin, covered with a tartan plaid, as is common with the poorer classes in Scotland. They passed by closely, and appeared to take the road for Aberdeen. I turned my eyes to the other end of the bridge, in expectation of beholding a more cheering prospect. In about an hour, some person tapped me on the shoulder; looking round, I found it was my smuggler, wearing a smile upon his features. 'Come awa', said he, pay your wager: it's a caul' day, and it will do very well.' 'How, where,' replied I, 'you have not won it.' 'You didna see the chiefs wi' the box and the plaid, then, gaen across the brig?' The truth flashed on my mind—'And they did not carry the dead?' 'Na, na,' said my friend, 'they certainly had a dead weight, but it was three ankers o' guid Glenlivet whisky!' and he soon gave me such evidence as satisfied me that he had safely lodged his smuggle.—*Aberdeen Journal*.

Lately, as some tradesmen, employed at Kindrochat, were viewing the falls of the Garry to Strowan, five miles west from Blair Athole, one of them venturing incautiously too near the brink of the precipice, slipped his foot and was thrown over the fall, which is there about 25 feet in height, into the whirlpool below. The rest of the party hastened to the bottom of the fall, when to their astonishment they found that their fire d had got out on the opposite side, and standing on an almost inaccessible rock, heard him exclaim as loud as he could bawl to a country man who was near, 'Let me see the cleverest chield in a' the parish o' Strowan do that.'

A serious alarm was excited a few nights ago, in Cowan street, occasioned by the absence of three very young children from the paternal roof for some hours after the gloaming. Search having been made in all directions without success, the despairing parents were upon the point of sending through the drum, for the purpose of advertising them, when, fortunately, a little girl happening to go to a sow house immediately behind the dwelling, with meat to *grunphy* was surprised at the appearance of something black lying coiled up in a corner thereof. Having gone and procured a light, she returned with some others, and proceeding (not without fear,) to explore the mystery, was saluted with a sonorous and deep-drawn snore, somewhat different from the monotonous grunt which *Satanders* was to the habit of sending forth, which amazed them exceedingly; they, however, upon again recovering their courage, cautiously approached to the mysterious spot—when, lo, they discovered the three renegadoes, most lovingly locked in the close embrace of the said sow, and all four fast asleep.—*Stirling Journal*.

SCOTLAND.

Theological Society Dinner.—A dinner in commemoration of the 50th session of this society took place on Friday, 19th May, in the Hopetoun Rooms, British Hotel. The Rev. Principal Baird officiated as chairman, and Dr. Chalmers of St Andrews as croupier. About seventy members were present, among whom we observed Dr. Inglis, Dr. Brunton, Professor Walker of Glasgow, Dr. Brown, and a number of other distinguished divines. The cloth was removed between seven and eight o'clock. The Rev. Principal Baird gave the King, the Royal Family, the Constitution in Church and State, the Army and Navy, &c. which he prefaced by short addresses. Dr. Inglis proposed 'Prosperity to the Church of Scotland,' the constitution of which he highly commended. He said he knew the advantages of the Theological Society by experience, having been forty years a member. It contributed much to imbue the minds of the young men with Theological literature, and promoted mutual regard and confidence among them. The Chairman proposed the health of Dr Inglis, and then 'The Theological Society,' both of which were drank with great applause. Professor Walker of Glasgow proposed the health of Dr. Baird, which was drank with enthusiasm. Dr. Chalmers in a short but brilliant speech, gave 'The universal dissemination of religious knowledge.' This was followed by 'The cause of civil and religious liberty,' by Dr. Brown; 'The illustrious departed members of the Society,' by Dr. Brunton; 'The progress of education in Scotland,' by a member: and 'The memory of John Knox,' by Mr. Paul. The healths of Dr. Brunton and Dr. Chalmers were also drank, and drew short replies from these gentlemen. Mr. Grant of Leith gave 'The health of Dr. William Ritchie.' The Chairman then gave 'The healths of the office bearers and present members of the Theological Society,' which was received with great applause. Mr. Petrie, President of the Society, returned thanks, and dilated at considerable length on the great advantages that had resulted from the institution. He concluded by giving 'The Universities of Scotland.' Dr. Chalmers returned thanks. After several other toasts, the meeting broke up. The dinner was handsome, and good humour and harmony prevailed in the highest degree.—*Edinburgh paper.*

SCOTLAND.

EDINBURGH—King of France.—At the last meeting of the Town Council of Edinburgh, the Lord Provost said it gave him much pleasure to have the honour of making a communication to the Council, and through them to the public, from no less distinguished a personage than his Majesty Charles X. King of France. Sir Patrick Walker, his Lordship stated, having been lately in Paris, had been commanded by his Majesty to attend him at St. Cloud on an early day, when his Majesty was pleased to direct the conversation particularly to Scotland, and so completely to lay aside his kingly dignity, as to make him (Sir Patrick) almost forget that he was in the presence of Royalty. Nor had his Majesty forgotten Edinburgh, for, in the course of the conversation, he had made many inquiries regarding its streets and squares, their extension since the time of his residence in Edinburgh, and the other improvements which had taken place in the city generally; and in taking leave of Sir Patrick, had desired him to wait on the Lord Provost, and to assure him, and the Magistrates and citizens in general, that he remembered with gratitude the many kindnesses he had experienced during his long residence in Edinburgh; that the recollection of them would never be effaced from his memory, and that he should ever hear with delight of the prosperity of Edinburgh, and her citizens. —Such, his Lordship said, was the communication he had to make.

The Amalgam-making Blacksmith of Gretna Green — A gentleman of this town (Plymouth,) has shown us a letter from a respectable

correspondent in the North, upon the subject of a certain union, which lately set every *labby* agog, from John O'Groat's house to the Mount of St. Michael at the Land's End, and "deucedly disappointed" all the votaries of *scan. mag*. The correspondent states, "I have had a long *confab* with the noted blacksmith of Gretna, who told me he never saw a lady more willing to be married, and before he could barely utter the last words of the *solemn ceremony*, she folded her arms round her husband's neck and gave him *three loud kisses*." We really hope and must believe, this knotty son of Vulcan was under the influence of a more than ordinary *wee drop*, when he thus betrothed our townsman's correspondent.—*Plymouth Jour.*

Remarkable Sagacity of a Dog.—The master of a dog belonging to Falkirk having been in the habit of frequenting a well known public house in that town, the dog got so much familiarised with the inmates of the house, that ultimately it used regularly to get both board and lodging there. It happened, however, that a dispute took place between the landlord of the house and the master of the dog, when the latter made an oath that he would not enter the house for a month afterwards. The dog heard the dispute, and for that night went home with his master, who kept his promise; and, strange to tell, although the people of the house repeatedly invited the dog to return, by tempting it with pieces of oat cake which used to be its favourite food, it could not be prevailed upon till the expiration of the time, when it returned with its master, and frequented the house as usual.—*Scotsman*.

The *Stirling Journal* congratulates its readers on the certain prospect of that town being very speedily lighted with gas. The Company's Committee of Management are stated to have been indefatigable in their endeavours to forward the undertaking, with the least possible delay, and it was expected the whole operations would be completed in the month of November.

the English Universities, will be adopted. At a convocation of the Bishops, which was held here lately, the subject was taken into consideration, and measures, we believe, are now in progress for the establishment of an institution, which cannot fail of diffusing amongst the numerous and increasing body of Episcopalians in Scotland more accurate knowledge of the principles of the Apostolic church to which they belong—*Edin. Observer.*

National Monument.—We understand that the absurd notion of erecting upon the Calton Hill, at an expence of £13,000, twelve pillars, which will stand there till Doomsday, like the grey geese of Mucklestone-muir, is not to be abandoned. It is to be hoped that the Magistrates will not suffer a beautiful hill to be spoiled, in the mean time, by any erection of the kind, without taking security for having the whole building completed within a specified period. We would beseech the Trustees seriously to reconsider the subject. Now that the enthusiasm of the public has cooled—at the distance of twelve years from the memorable event which the monument was meant to commemorate—what possible chance is there of realizing the requisite sum by subscription? An application to Parliament for a grant of money is out of the question, considering the manner in which the former application was treated. Even Scotch members opposed it; and among them was the honourable member for Inverness-shire, than whom a more patriotic man does not exist. The funds already collected are sufficient for the construction of a proper monument, or a triumphal arch, of suitable magnificence; and to that let them be devoted.

National Sins—Among the sins of the nation, now little thought of, the following are enumerated in the act of the Associate Presbytery, published at Edinburgh, in 1743, and reprinted at Glasgow, in 1760. 1st. The act of Queen Anne, for tolerating episcopacy in Scotland. 2d. The act for adjourning the Court of Sessions during the Christmas holidays. 3d. The abolition of the penal statutes against *witchcraft*, as being contrary to the laws of God.

Edinburgh Castle—The Castle of Edinburgh is situated on the western and rugged extremity of the central hill on which the ancient part of the city is built. It is separated from the buildings of the city by a space of about 350 feet in length, and 300 in breadth. A parapet wall and railing were erected on the north side of this terrace in 1817. The area of the rock on which the castle stands measures about seven English acres. It is elevated 383 feet above the level of the sea, and is accessible only on the eastern side, all the others being nearly perpendicular.

At the western termination of the Castle Hill is the outer barrier of the castle, formed of strong palisadoes. Beyond this is a dry ditch, with a draw-bridge and gate, which is defended on the flanks by two small batteries. Within the gate is a guard-room, and a reservoir to supply the garrison with water. Beyond these, on a road winding upwards, towards the north, are two gateways—the first of which is very strong, and has two port-cullises. A little from the gateway, to the right, is a battery, called Argyll's Battery, near which there are store-houses for gun-carriages, and other implements of artillery. On the north is a grand store-room and arsenal, which, together with the other magazines in the fort, are capable of containing upwards of 30,000 stand of arms. A little farther on stands the governor's house, from which the road ascends to the chapel of the garrison, which was rebuilt in 1818. Near the chapel is the main guard-room; and beyond it, on the east, a large semi-circular platform, called the Half Moon, mounted with twelve, eighteen, and twenty-four pounders. On the top of this rampart is erected the flag-staff; and near it is the ancient well of the garrison, cut through the solid rock to a great depth. In addition to the Battery mentioned, there are several others at different parts of the circumference of the rampart or wall by which the brow of the rock is encircled. But the fortifications of the castle correspond with none of the rules of art, being built according to the irregular form of the precipice, on which they stand.

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The folks o' Dollar—A circumstance took place a few days ago which excited the utmost consternation among 'the folks o' Dollar.' A certain person who resides quite close to the town, had, with his family, gone on a tour, and requested a friend, who lived some short distance from him, to have an eye upon his house. Accordingly, faithful to his trust, the friend before going to bed, stepped out to have a peep of his worthy neighbour's domicile. And sure enough, most lucky it was that he did so, for on casting his eye towards it, he discovered a flare of light in the windows. In he flew to his wife in the utmost trepidation—out flew the family. The goodman said the house was on fire—the daughters said it was robbery—the wife said it was the devil, and all ran hither and thither to alarm a' 'the folks o' Dollar.' 'The maist feck o' the folks o' Dollar' were asleep, no doubt in the midst of pleasant dreams about more golden showers, but such a sough of terror and dismay were bolted on the troubled winds, as could not fail to disturb the peaceful slumbers even of the lucky 'folks o' Dollar,' and soon such a body of stalwart men was mustered, armed with poker and tongs, and such like weapons, that be the cause of their terrors "troubled ghost, or goblin damned," he must quickly fly before the valiant folks o' Dollar.' Onward they marched in silence. The door was unbolted—and the party entered;—but, strange to tell, there was nothing found to call forth heroic deeds from the courageous 'folks o' Dollar.' The party had no sooner secured all as found, than they proceeded towards the quarter from whence they came. They had not gone far when a glaring light again shewed itself in the ill-fated house. Some said it was awful—others said it wasna fire o' this world—and all agreed, the like had never happened before among the douce 'folks o' Dollar.'—The cry was again given to rouse every mother's son o' 'the folks o' Dollar,' who quickly rushed, scarce awake to the spot, anxious to ascertain the cause of the general panic. The stir and buzz spread far and wide, till at length it reached the ears of Auld Bell Stalker, who just came up, rubbing her eyes, as the 'folks o' Dollar' were about, once more, to march to the scene of action, "Preserve us, what's a' the folk gaping and staring about," said Bell—She was answered by numberless tongues.—"Woman, do ye no see the braw house yonder, flickering wi' flame, as if a' the witches o' Fife were at a merry-making in it," "Gae awa hame, ye gouks," said Bell, "an' no bring scandal on a' the folks o' Dollar!"—it' naething but the flickerings o' the lights o' Devon Ironworks on the winnocks."

SCOTLAND.

The Scotch Episcopalians.—We understand that there has been for some time in agitation, amongst the influential members of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, a plan of erecting an Episcopal College in this city, where a course of study, similar to that pursued in

the English Universities, will be adopted. At a convocation of the Bishops, which was held here lately, the subject was taken into consideration, and measures, we believe, are now in progress for the establishment of an institution, which cannot fail of diffusing amongst the numerous and increasing body of Episcopalians in Scotland more accurate knowledge of the principles of the Apostolic church to which they belong—*Edin. Observer.*

National Monument.—We understand that the absurd notion of erecting upon the Calton Hill, at an expence of £13,000, twelve pillars, which will stand there till Doomsday, like the grey geese of Mucklestone-muir, is not to be abandoned. It is to be hoped that the Magistrates will not suffer a beautiful hill to be spoiled, in the mean time, by any erection of the kind, without taking security for having the whole building completed within a specified period. We would beseech the Trustees seriously to reconsider the subject. Now that the enthusiasm of the public has cooled—at the distance of twelve years from the memorable event which the monument was meant to commemorate—what possible chance is there of realizing the requisite sum by subscription? An application to Parliament for a grant of money is out of the question, considering the manner in which the former application was treated. Even Scotch members opposed it; and among them was the honourable member for Inverness-shire, than whom a more patriotic man does not exist. The funds already collected are sufficient for the construction of a proper monument, or a triumphal arch, of suitable magnificence; and to that let them be devoted.

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SCOTLAND.

The Scotch Episcopalians.—We understand that there has been for some time in agitation, amongst the influential members of the Episcopal Church of Scotland, a plan of erecting an Episcopal College in this city, where a course of study, similar to that pursued in

ing 30th June 1826, amounted to £10,204, 13s. 10 1-2d., and the expenditure (including £300 paid to the parish of St. Cuthbert's and £1000 of debt paid by Sir Wm. Forbes and Co.) amounted to £10,843, 4s. 1 1-2d. The average number of resident paupers was 615, and the expense of maintaining each £9, 10s 6d. Seventy two died in the course of the year.

West Kirk Charity Workhouse —The household expenditure for the last year, including salaries, has amounted to £3678, 8s. 5d., and the average number of persons who have daily resided within the house in the course of the year, was 445, making the expense of maintaining each person, £8, 5s 3 3-4d. The amount paid to out pensioners, and fees for children at nurse, was £1926 11s. 5d.—Other expences, £120, 14s 8 1-2d.—Total, £5735, 14s. 6 1 2d. The receipts were £5531. 17s, leaving a deficiency of £203 17s. 6d.

Patent Flooring Machine —A machine has recently been invented and patents obtained for it, which at once performs all the various operations for converting rough sawn boards into complete finished flooring. It reduces the board to a uniform breadth, planes it, cuts the groove in the one edge, and works the feather or tongue on the other; it also removes the superfluous thickness from a sufficient portion of that part of the board which is destined to become the under side of the floor, and even takes off a minute portion of the annis, that the joints may enter with more facility in laying it down; the whole being executed in a superior manner, and, as may be readily imagined, with much more accuracy than if performed by the most skilful workman. This ingenious machine is the invention of Mr. Muir, of the Glasgow Vencer Saw-mills, who has had it in operation for some time. The idea of such a machine, however, had also occurred to Mr. William Thomson, Cabinet-maker, in Fountainbridge, Edinburgh, and both applied for a patent at the same time, without the one knowing of the other's application, until officially informed of it; and upon reference to the Lord Advocate in the usual manner the parties were called on to specify their inventions for his Lordship's consideration, when, although differing in one important particular, they were yet found to be so much alike, that they agreed to take the patent jointly in name of both, and to share its privileges. Each of the patentees has an ample field for individual exertion in the city to which he belongs, but although a considerable portion of the work has been performed by the machine in Glasgow, it is not yet brought into operation in Edinburgh, tho', we understand, one will be started there in the course of two or three weeks.—What constitutes the peculiar value of the invention is its executing to perfection the most toilsome and slavish part of the work of the house-carpenter, who will thus in future be relieved from the laborious task of working flooring boards, at least in the vicinity of these admirable machines.

SCOTLAND.

Education in Scotland —A Report has been published by the Committee of the General Assembly, on increasing the means of Education and Religious Instruction in Scotland. From inquiries made, it was ascertained that in ten of the Synods of Scotland, comprising 764 parishes, and 1,710,126 persons, the means of education were so extensive that there was scarcely any individual who had not been taught to read. In the remaining six Synods, viz. Argyll, Glenelg, Ross, Sutherland, Caithness, Orkney, and Zetland, containing 143 parishes, and 377,730 inhabitants, there was found to be a want of 250 schools, which it is computed would educate 10,500 children. There is also wanted 130 Catechists in these synods for the religious instruction of the people, and the ten Lowland Synods require six catechists. The Committee being authorised by the Assembly, proceeded to appoint school-masters in a few situations where they were most wanted, or where the necessary accommodations were provided or promised by the heritors. These accommodations are, 1st, a school-house; 2d, a dwelling-house; 3d, a small garden; 4th fuel furnished gratis; and 5th, ground to maintain a cow.—Where these are provided, the teacher is to be allowed £20 or £25 a year, with liberty to draw school fees equal to those of the parish school. In November last, the first school was opened at Ullapool, in the parish of Loch Broom, which is 50 miles long, and 38 broad, and has 4747 inhabitants, of whom only 993 had been taught to read. The British Fishery Society provided a school house. The school has been attended by about 150 scholars. A second school was established at Lochnaig in Argyllshire and has about 80 scholars.—At Tobermory, a school-house is prepared, and the Committee are endeavouring to find a teacher for this important station, where they expect a hundred scholars. Eight other stations are named in remote Highland districts, where accommodations are promised, and where the Committee have engaged to provide schoolmasters. Various other places are named, where the Committee expect shortly to plant schools; and altogether the number of schools opened or engaged to be opened by the Committee amounts to 41. The Committee have prepared four Gaelic school books, and have printed 5000 of each, the Society for Propagating Christian Knowledge having engaged to purchase 2000 of each at prime cost. These have been prepared by Mr. John M. Donald, on the principle adopted in Dr. Thomson's English school books. The Committee intend to add to these a small volume in Gaelic, of descriptive, narrative, moral, and religious pieces, of the nature of a collection, but meant, we presume, for the use of grown up persons as well as youths. A set of English school books have also been provided, as the English language will be taught more or less in all the schools. The books are not to be given away, but sold. The three first Gaelic school books will cost 9d. in all; the set of English ones 3s. The Committee have also had under consideration to provide small and select libraries, to itinerate, like those established by Mr. Samuel Brown in East Lothian. The report is highly deserving of public attention.

Edinburgh Charity Workhouse —The abstract of the annual accounts of the establishment have just been published. The income (including an old disputed claim of about £1000) for the year end-

wife (*Lady Blackbarony*, as the wives of lairds were universally called in those days) what had passed. Her ladyship, on a moment's reflection, seeing the advantage that was thus likely to be lost in the establishment of her daughter, and to whom the disparity of years was no objection, immediately exclaimed, 'Are you daft, Laird! gang awa' immediately and call Hayston back again.' On this the Laird observed (and this turned out to be the cogent reason for his having declined Hayston's visit), 'Ye ken, my dear, Jean's shoon' at the mending,' for the misses of these days had but one pair, and these good and substantial ones, which would make a strange figure in a drawing room of the present day. 'Ye ken Jean's shoon' at the mending.' 'Hoot awa' sic nonsense (says her ladyship) I'll gie her mine.' 'And what 'ill you do yoursel'?' 'Do,' says the lady, 'I'll put on your boots. I've lang petticoats, and they'll never be noticed. Rin and cry back the Laird.' Blackbarony was at once convinced by the reasoning and ingenuity of his wife; and as Hayston's pony was none of the fleetest, Blackbarony had little difficulty in overtaking the Laird of Hayston, and persuading him to turn again the laird having really conceived an affection for his neighbour's daughter. The visit was paid, Jean was introduced in her mother's shoes, the boots were never noticed, and the wedding took place in due time, and was celebrated with all the mirth and jollity usually displayed on such occasions. The union turned out happily, and from it are sprung and lineally descended the family of Hayston.

London Mail—What will the citizens of Glasgow say if they get their London Mail in by ten o'clock of the forenoon of the second day, and leaving this again at 6 P. M. reach London at 6 A. M. on the second day, by which means the answer to a letter written at London on Monday will reach the metropolis on Friday? Before many weeks expire they may perhaps see this, or something approaching near it.—*Glasgow Courier*.

A Highland Hunt.—An officer of excise, who had been recently settled in a Highland district where much illicit distillation had been carried on, commenced the duties of his office with great keenness and seemingly indefatigable perseverance. One day as he was ranging among the scraggy knoves that skirted the sides of a deep wilderness, an unexpected little curling cloud of smoke, which seemed to slip out as if by accident from under the fringed brow of a large bush of heather caught his eye, and acting like magic on his enraptured senses, directed him with hurrying steps to the secret spot, where, pushing aside the heather, and plunging into the artful concealment, the reckless gauger surprised poor Donald in the very midst of his pots and pans. A momentary silence ensued, as if either party, from the suddenness of their acquaintanceship, had felt uncertain whether it became his individual part to act on the offensive or defensive.—The pause, however, was short, when the man of 'mountain dew,' who was a sturdy mountaineer, seemed suddenly to recollect himself, and stealing first a look at the door, and then fixing a stern inquiring eye on the intruder, whispered in a suppressed tone, 'Tid ony body see her comin' in?' The knight of the dipping rod, misconstruing this into a symptom of fear, felt greatly relieved, and rallying a little, answered 'No! not one!!' 'Tain,' said the smuggler, 'ta did o' ane sall ever see her gaun out again'—at the same time beginning to 'suit the action to the word.' 'Twas enough—his visitor had no wish to be troublesome by his presence, so taking the hint, scampered off as fast his feet could carry him.—*Stirling Journal*.

Watty M'Kippen o' Bucklivie.—Many years ago, when the worthy and Rev. Ebenezer Erskine was a minister in Stirling, he was visited by his brother the renowned Ralph, and as the day of his visitation happened to fall upon the EXAMINE, Ralph was requested to officiate upon that occasion. These things are sadly fallen away from their former faithful enforcement, when many douce auld heads o' families and decent widow woman, with her trig *dochter*s, used to assemble in the kirk to hear the doctrines of their faith expounded—the younger branches of the family, emulous to display their proficiency in answering all the intricacies of the catechism *larger and shorter*, while the long-headed sensible and deep-read fathers, showed before the revering group their skill as polemics, and that they could bring even the minister to a nonplus 'in reasoning hiebtoun fate, foreknowledge and free will.' Every body has heard droll answers made by these worthies upon such occasions—as to 'wha made the devil,' &c. &c. and as in these days of *schism*, the knotty points were divided and subdivided, (each division starting, like the split polypus, into a perfect body,) doubtless many hours were lost to spiritual nourishment amid the cabalistic bickering that annoyed the examn'. The faithful and peace-loving Ralph was apprised by his brother, that two members, in particular, of the congregation, were gifted in an over-abundance of divine things, and that they said their *questions* in the old Scotch fashion, by asking another—he accordingly wisely put a cross after their names on the list. All passed decently in order till the first of the two genuises was come to, but although he was plied with all and more than the usual orthodox interrogatories, he kept a strict silence, as if utterly in ignorance of the great things about which they were met. Leaving him alone, as given to his idols doubtless, the Rev. gentleman proceeded with the work of the day till the second of the learned elders came in his turn, but all that tradition has preserved of their *sacred dialogue* down to our times is a comparison which is said to have given a clear idea to the hearers, of the being's character who formed the dark subject of conversation. And, to those who knew the man alluded to, must have come home with peculiar emphasis. After being asked some of the more common queries about the great adversary Satan, our friend was desired to state what he could say anent his character. 'Deed sir,' quoth he, 'the devil's just as like Watty M'Kippen o' Bucklivie as he can be.' 'How so?' said his reverend interrogator. 'Because deil a plack ere ane was the better o' him!'

'This way, this way,' roared a son of Crispon, on Friday, as he stood before his stall in Castle street, Aberdeen, 'this way; if you buy here you'll buy again.' 'Nae doubt o't, and it winna be lang theretill,' answered a country fellow who was passing, holding up his foot, and discovering his shoe, the sole and upper-works of which had parted company; 'there's wi' aught days' wear, ye botch!'

SCOTLAND.

Anecdote of the Hayston Family.—One fine summer day, as Murray the Laird of Blackbarony, was strolling down the brae towards the Tweed, he saw the Laird of Hayston, mounted on his white pony, approaching as if with the intention of visiting Blackbarony.—After the usual greetings, Murray asked Hayston if that was his intention. 'Deed it's just that,' quoth Hayston, 'and I'll tell you my errand. I am gaun to court your daughter Jean.' The Laird of Blackbarony (who, for a reason which will afterwards appear, was not willing that his neighbour should pay his visit at that particular time) gave the thing the go-by by saying that his daughter was owre young for the Laird. 'E'en's like,' quoth the Laird, who was somewhat darty, and who thereupon took an unceremonious leave of Blackbarony, hinting that his visit would perhaps be more acceptable somehwie else. The latter went home and immediately told his

wife (*Lady Blackbarony*), as the wives of lairds were universally called in those days) what had passed. Her ladyship, on a moment's reflection, seeing the advantage that was thus likely to be lost in the establishment of her daughter, and to whom the disparity of years was no objection, immediately exclaimed, 'Are you daft, Laird! gang awa' immediately and call Hayston back again.' On this the Laird observed (and this turned out to be the cogent reason for his having declined Hayston's visit), 'Ye ken, my dear, Jean's shoon' at the mending,' for the misses of these days had but one pair, and these good and substantial ones, which would make a strange figure in a drawing room of the present day. 'Ye ken Jean's shoon' at the mending.' 'Hoot awa' sic nonsense (says her ladyship) I'll gie her mine.' 'And what 'ill you do yoursel'?' 'Do,' says the lady, 'I'll put on your boots. I've lang petticoats, and they'll never be noticed. Rin and cry back the Laird.' Blackbarony was at once convinced by the reasoning and ingenuity of his wife; and as Hayston's pony was none of the fleetest, Blackbarony had little difficulty in overtaking the Laird of Hayston, and persuading him to turn again the laird having really conceived an affection for his neighbour's daughter. The visit was paid, Jean was introduced in her mother's shoes, the boots were never noticed, and the wedding took place in due time, and was celebrated with all the mirth and jollity usually displayed on such occasions. The union turned out happily, and from it are sprung and lineally descended the family of Hayston.

London Mail—What will the citizens of Glasgow say if they get their London Mail in by ten o'clock of the forenoon of the second day, and leaving this again at 6 P. M. reach London at 6 A. M. on the second day, by which means the answer to a letter written at London on Monday will reach the metropolis on Friday? Before many weeks expire they may perhaps see this, or something approaching near it.—*Glasgow Courier*.

A Highland Hunt.—An officer of excise, who had been recently settled in a Highland district where much illicit distillation had been carried on, commenced the duties of his office with great keenness and seemingly indefatigable perseverance. One day as he was ranging among the scraggy knoves that skirted the sides of a deep wilderness, an unexpected little curling cloud of smoke, which seemed to slip out as if by accident from under the fringed brow of a large bush of heather caught his eye, and acting like magic on his enraptured senses, directed him with hurrying steps to the secret spot, where, pushing aside the heather, and plunging into the artful concealment, the reckless gauger surprised poor Donald in the very midst of his pots and pans. A momentary silence ensued, as if either party, from the suddenness of their acquaintanceship, had felt uncertain whether it became his individual part to act on the offensive or defensive.—The pause, however, was short, when the man of 'mountain dew,' who was a sturdy mountaineer, seemed suddenly to recollect himself, and stealing first a look at the door, and then fixing a stern inquiring eye on the intruder, whispered in a suppressed tone, 'Tid ony body see her comin' in?' The knight of the dipping rod, misconstruing this into a symptom of fear, felt greatly relieved, and rallying a little, answered 'No! not one!!' 'Tain,' said the smuggler, 'ta did o'ane sall ever see her gaun out again'—at the same time beginning to 'suit the action to the word.' 'Twas enough—his visitor had no wish to be troublesome by his presence, so taking the hint, scampered off as fast his feet could carry him.—*Stirling Journal*.

Watty M'Kippen o' Bucklivie.—Many years ago, when the worthy and Rev. Ebenezer Erskine was a minister in Stirling, he was visited by his brother the renowned Ralph, and as the day of his visitation happened to fall upon the EXAMINE, Ralph was requested to officiate upon that occasion. These things are sadly fallen away from their former faithful enforcement, when many douce auld heads o' families and decent widow woman, with her trig *dochter*s, used to assemble in the kirk to hear the doctrines of their faith expounded—the younger branches of the family, emulous to display their proficiency in answering all the intricacies of the catechism larger and shorter, while the long-headed sensible and deep-read fathers, showed before the revering group their skill as polemics, and that they could bring even the minister to a nonplus 'in reasoning hiebbon fate, foreknowledge and free will.' Every body has heard droll answers made by these worthies upon such occasions—as to 'wha made the devil,' &c. &c. and as in these days of *schism*, the knotty points were divided and subdivided, (each division starting, like the split polypus, into a perfect body,) doubtless many hours were lost to spiritual nourishment amid the cabalistic bickering that annoyed the examn'. The faithful and peace-loving Ralph was apprised by his brother, that two members, in particular, of the congregation, were gifted in an over-abundance of divine things, and that they said their *questions* in the old Scotch fashion, by asking another—he accordingly wisely put a cross after their names on the list. All passed decently in order till the first of the two genuises was come to, but although he was plied with all and more than the usual orthodox interrogatories, he kept a strict silence, as if utterly in ignorance of the great things about which they were met. Leaving him alone, as given to his idols doubtless, the Rev. gentleman proceeded with the work of the day till the second of the learned elders came in his turn, but all that tradition has preserved of their *sacred dialogue* down to our times is a comparison which is said to have given a clear idea to the hearers, of the being's character who formed the dark subject of conversation. And, to those who knew the man alluded to, must have come home with peculiar emphasis. After being asked some of the more common queries about the great adversary Satan, our friend was desired to state what he could say anent his character. 'Deed sir,' quoth he, 'the devil's just as like Watty M'Kippen o' Bucklivie as he can be.' 'How so?' said his reverend interrogator. 'Because deil a plack ere ane was the better o' him!'

'This way, this way,' roared a son of Crispon, on Friday, as he stood before his stall in Castle street, Aberdeen, 'this way; if you buy here you'll buy again.' 'Nae doubt o't, and it winna be lang theretill,' answered a country fellow who was passing, holding up his foot, and discovering his shoe, the sole and upper-works of which had parted company; 'there's wi' aught days' wear, ye botch!'

SCOTLAND.

Anecdote of the Hayston Family.—One fine summer day, as Murray the Laird of Blackbarony, was strolling down the brae towards the Tweed, he saw the Laird of Hayston, mounted on his white pony, approaching as if with the intention of visiting Blackbarony.—After the usual greetings, Murray asked Hayston if that was his intention. 'Deed it's just that,' quoth Hayston, 'and I'll tell you my errand. I am gaun to court your daughter Jean.' The Laird of Blackbarony (who, for a reason which will afterwards appear, was not willing that his neighbour should pay his visit at that particular time) gave the thing the go-by by saying that his daughter was owre young for the Laird. 'E'en's like,' quoth the Laird, who was somewhat darty, and who thereupon took an unceremonious leave of Blackbarony, hinting that his visit would perhaps be more acceptable somehwie else. The latter went home and immediately told his

that rock which the emigrant associates with the farewell to his country, called forth in my bosom a tide of recollections. When I last saw it, I was returning, as now, from one of my wild adventures in search of happiness and fame; the result of both were nearly equal—misery and disappointment: the last, however, had been the most severe lesson, and I was now, like the prodigal son, retracing my way from a far country, where I had been glad (literally) to feed on the husks which formed the food of the swine. My past life glided in review before my mind, and I could not help exclaiming, what a fool have I been! I have bartered every privilege which was my birthright, in the pursuit of vain dreams of renown and happiness; setting aside the misery and hardship I have endured; has not the last six years of my life been a blank, that period of time employed in my education at home, what might I have not been? but my doom is fixed, I have sealed it myself—there was distraction in the thought.

That day I landed at Irvine, and resolved to pursue my journey homeward without stopping. As I travelled along, I felt that tumultuous fluttering and overflowing of the heart, and buoyancy of tread which every sensitive being must have felt on revisiting the land of his birth, after years of separation from all that was dear to him. The sun was setting when I reached the wood of —, it had been the haunt of many of my childish wanderings; there I had often roved, unconscious of where I was going. My soul awed with the deep shade, that the trees cast around, I trod as if on holy ground, while the ceaseless hum of its insect inhabitants, mingled with the wail of the cushat, cherished the deep pensive feelings which the scene had excited in my bosom. It was here that I first learned to commune with my own heart, and my imagination first soared into the realms of fairy. Near its margin was the stream, on whose banks I have lain listening to its murmuring. My gaze fixed on the world, portrayed in its transparent bosom so beautiful, so bright I could scarcely believe it was not some world of spirituality, some realm of bliss.—The scene was changed—winter had stripped it of all its attractions—the blast howled through the leafless trees—and the stream that had meandered so sweetly through the verdant plain, was now roaring down its channel with impetuous force. The scene was changed; but he who looked on it was not less so.

‘Morning of life! too soon o’ercast—

Young days of bliss, too dear to lose—

Ah! whither have thy visions past

That brightened all my childish views?

For never yet when poet’s muse,

Or maiden’s dream in bowers alone,

Were glorious visions more profuse.—

Ah! whither have those visions gone?

I was roused from one of memory’s sweetest dreams, by the distant sound of bells—they were those of my native city; I had often heard them at the same hour, they spoke of wo, devotion and joy, and scenes long gone by. In this softened state of feeling I entered the town, and heedless of the throng, I hurried on to the home of my parents—reached the house—threw myself into their arms, and the first tumult of feeling over I sat at the fireside, with my father on the one side, and my mother at the other, gazing affectionately upon me, while I talked of all I had seen, and all I had felt.

Being tired after my journey, my mother suggested the propriety of my going to rest, and the tender hand that had often smoothed my pillow, again performed that office. I could not help comparing my situation with the nights that I had lain exposed to the storm, with the cold earth for my bed, and I felt a lively impulse of gratitude (worth a thousand formal prayers) to the Divine Being, who had watched over and protected me through every danger, and brought me in safety back to my home and my parents.

While my mind was occupied in these reflections, my mother again entered my chamber to see if I wanted any thing. ‘Are you asleep, James?’—My eyes were shut and I did not reply. She stood over me with a light in her hand, gazing on my weather-beaten countenance. ‘My poor wanderer,’ she ejaculated, ‘what must you have endured since last I saw you—danger and death has surrounded you, fatigue and hunger attended your steps; but yet you have been kindly dealt with mercifully preserved. I return thee thanks, thou Almighty giver of every good, for thy bounteous mercy to my poor boy—O guide him to thyself!’ She stopped to kiss my forehead—her warm tears fell upon my face, my emotions became too strong for concealment, and afraid that she had disturbed my sleep, she softly left the room.

Those who have felt the rude storms of adversity, and the endearing kindness a mother will appreciate my feelings.

SCOTLAND.

MY NATIVE HOME.

The following lively and well-told tale, is taken from ‘Scenes and Sketches of a Soldier’s Life in Ireland.’ The same author has published the previous part of his life, under the title of ‘Recollections of an Eventful Life,’ and making allowances for a soldier’s ambition to shine as a hero in literature, must have brought him a fairer share of honour than often falls to the lot of a private soldier.

I had received several letters from my parents since my return, they were both well, and urged me to procure a furlough and go home to see them. It was some time before I could accomplish this; but at length it was effected, and having taken a seat on the coach, I set off on my journey home. On reaching Dublin I luckily found a vessel prepared to sail for Irvine, and securing a passage, I embarked next morning. The wind being favorable, we set sail and were soon fairly into the channel, holding on our course; the breeze continued steady all that day, and by night we had run a long way down the coast.

Feeling little inclination to sleep, about midnight I came on deck; considering the season of the year, it was a delightful night; the moon shed her silver radiance o’er reposing nature, like the smile of a fond mother over her sleeping infant, and as I gazed on her, sailing through the blue expanse of heaven, with her attendant train of myriads of sparkling orbs, I felt my mind soar beyond this earth and all its concerns.

‘Whoever gazed upon them shining,
And turned to earth without repining,
Nor wished for wings to fly away,
And mix in their eternal ray?’

While I leaned over the ship’s bow, watching the moonbeams dancing on the glassy bosom of the deep—my ears soothed with the rippling of the vessel, as she urged her way through the waters.—I felt as if shut out from the world, and emancipated from its laws and control. At sea is the place for reflection and contemplation—there the memory, as if secure in her privacy, unlocks and draws forth her secret treasures, and broods over them with miser care.

Before me the softened outline of the distant coast of Scotland could be seen, its rugged points bursting through the gauzy film with which they were enveloped; but the well known rock of Ailsa stood forth in bold relief, its giant mass towering proudly above the waves, alike defying the fury and the hand of time—the sign of

mountain glens. The traveller would scarcely discern these huts, as he approaches them, even when grouped in small villages, as they sometimes are, except by the smoke which they emit from the hole in the top—so much like mole hills are they. With the shepherd race among the Grampians, I do not remember to have seen the smallest agricultural, or even horticultural improvement. What wild beings verily they must be! and how few their wants! Here and there some better houses appears, with some marks of civilization; and occasionally, in the vicinity of some strath or interval ground upon a river, may be found a village of decent cottages. But even there the ground is ordinarily the floor, and other things equal.

THE BAGPIPES.

Yet from these very regions, and from these very huts, pipers will go out into the plains and towns below, strutting in their gaiters, dangling in their kilts, with their plaid frock sashed tightly about the loins, their bonnets bristling with feathers from a pheasant's tail, and walking so lightly, that their feet seem scarcely to touch the ground—the peculiar, the inimitable air of these, who have been accustomed to bound over the rocks of the mountains, making such music, as almost to arrest the current of the river, and bend the trees to listen from the tops of the hills. As I sat at my breakfast one morning at Dunkeld, I heard the music of the bagpipe entering the village, with unusual power and sweetness. I jumped, as every one would—as no one could help—and ran to the window, and by that time every window and every door in the street were full of heads; every body in the street, horses and all, stopped, and others came pouring in from adjoining streets. The music passed. There were two pipes. I had often heard the bagpipes before, but never—never with a power to be compared with this instance. And who and what were they? It was a pleasant Monday morning, and two one-horse carts, loaded with reapers, (females of course,) with the frills of their white caps flying in the wind, each horse led by the hand of a man, all passing through the village of Dunkeld, on their way to the harvestfield. The pipers were two men, sitting in front of the first cart, as it rolled over the pavement—no great improvement to the music,—themselves and their company apparently unconscious of the power they exercised over the villagers.—And this is the music which they carry with them to the field of laborious toil, to entertain the vacant hour—this the music with which the shepherd of the Grampian hills enraptures his wife and bairns, when his fleecy tribe are asleep around him for the night—the same with which he entertains the rocks in the day time, and makes the reposing hour of noon sweet and welcome to his flocks. There is a subduing plainiveness in the bagpipes, skillfully played, which few hearts can easily resist. That these untutored Highlanders should be so apt upon this instrument, proves how accomplished man may be in any one thing to which he devotes all his skill, and how rude in every thing else.—There is a world of poetry and the deepest soul of song in the best music of the bagpipes. They

tell you a story all along, challenging your every sympathy—a story that you cannot help but feel—and yet a story, the deep mysteries of which need interpretation. You would fain ask the wanderer, what strong passions agitate his inmost soul, and while he secures and enchains your interest, he passes by without gratifying your curiosity. You give him your whole heart, but he renders not in return the secret of his charm. He passes from the scene, enveloped in all the strangeness of his dubious emotions. He has displayed to you the very wildness of Ossian, and all the lofty independence of Ossian's heroes, while his light foot seemed bounding over the rocks and skipping on the tops of the mountains—and anon he is far away. Certainly there is character—and not a little of character in the rude people, inhabiting such a rugged region of the globe. It is not difficult to believe that they have done such exploits, as are ascribed to them in the historical legends of that classic ground. Yet no native of other and kindred climes would covet the place of their abode, or the circumstances of their earthly existence.—To them it is home, and a much loved home, for they know no other.

These naked, yet wild mountains, on the face of which a man, or a sheep, or a goat may be seen from the bottom to the tops even of the highest, are a strange show to him, who has been accustomed to see such mountain scenery covered and waving with the thickest and heaviest forests of the wilderness. His inference is, and not unjust, that it is the barrenness of the soil and the decrepitude of age, that have stripped these magnificent prominences of our earth of their most natural, most glorious robes.

As we rolled along the vale of the Spey, with the Grampian hills running into the clouds on all sides, under the most irregular and grotesque forms, I asked the guard of the coach: "These high posts, about twelve feet above the ground, stuck up apparently at certain measured intervals on the side of the road, I suppose are to mark distances, are they not?" "O no, they are to point out the road to the traveller in the snows of winter. The snow often buries them out of sight." At this reply I saw at once the not improbable verity of the accounts we have sometimes had of the sudden storms of winter, sweeping over these mountains and burying both the shepherd and his flock before he could bring them home. A single glance of the surrounding scenery is enough to convince any one, that such disasters must sometimes occur among such hills in the latitude of 57 degrees.

We passed the residence of Mr. Macpherson, son of the translator of Ossian, and looked upon the grave of his father, in the beautiful valley of Strath-Spey—beautiful rather, as being a contrast to the desolate regions of nearly forty miles, from which we had just emerged. The old gentleman is strongly suspected of having been himself Ossian, and that his translation is the original; at any rate, he collected the fragments of the story from the current traditions in the mouths of the shepherd bards of his day, unless it still be true, that he invented it. People may have which they will to be the fact.

From Colton's Four Years in Great Britain.

The Highlanders.

As the hills are poor, the people who live among them are also poor. They are ignorant and degraded—not a few of them but a little remove from the most besotted barbarism. I have travelled a hundred miles in one line and a hundred in another, among the hills of Scotland, and every where is to be seen the miserable hovel, and that the principal and most frequent tenement of man, a mere sod wall and sod roof, cut up from the earth by the spade—without floor, without a chimney, without a partition, the fire in the centre, and the smoke, after rolling about this confined and damp den, escaping by a little hole left in the top, and may often be seen pouring out its columns by the apology for a door.—I entered one of these huts, not more than 30 feet by 15, where the family occupied one end, and the cow, pigs, and poultry the other, with no other partition wall than a sort of low rail fence—all apparently contented and happy—the children singing, or crying—a little of both—and the mother busy in keeping order. It is true, that some of these sod houses are better than others—but the best of them may well be supposed cheap enough. They are supported by ribs of unhewn mountain birch, the only tree indigenous to the soil, and when finished are exactly in the form of a new made grave, as was most befitting, the tenants being literally buried alive.

One would imagine that the highland race must have greatly degenerated, when found in such conditions, as scores of thousands, not to say hundreds of thousands, may be found, planted and scattered along the lower regions of these

Take it all in all, the road from Perth to Inverness, across the highlands, opens a new and strange world even to imagination, with all the strangeness of its expectations. Imagination itself is surprised, and for this good reason, that its own creations are always false. But in this particular instance imagination is outstripped by the changing visions of the reality successively laid before the eye.

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THE EDINBURGH REVIEW.

From the Leeds Intelligencer

Speaking of the Number of this work for June, on the eve of publication, the *Scots Times* says—

'It is believed that *Edinburgh Review* will no longer be published by the respectable house under whose name it has now been sent forth, for nearly a quarter of a century. Rumour says, that its editor, Mr. Jeffrey, is involved in disputes with Longman & Co. who have hitherto shared the copyright with the Edinburgh publishers—and it is added, that the present editorship may not endure

Whether there is any foundation for two of the above rumours we are not prepared to decide—but we believe it is true that some differences have taken place between Mr. Jeffrey and Messrs Longman and Co. since the failure of Constable & Co's house in Edinburgh. As we stated, several months back; the Editor of the celebrated Blue and Yellow, has had for a long period a sum of £700 for each number of the work published, half of which sum was payable every three months by Messrs Longman & Co.—Constable & Co accordingly, we understand, drew upon them immediately, each quarterly batch of Whiggery came forth, for three hundred and fifty pounds, on Mr Jeffrey's account, and the demand was, of course, always punctually discharged. The learned gentleman, however, believing in the perfect solvency of the Scotch firm, had allowed these sums, as well as the similar ones, payable by the other half of the proprietors to accumulate, at interest, in the hands of the latter; and by that means, when the establishment stopped, he stood on their books a creditor to a large amount—report affirmed for some thousands of pounds. Finding himself in this awkward predicament, it is said that he conceived of taking a legal hitch against Messrs Longman & Co. for the monies of his salary from them, which they had already paid to Constable & Co. for his account, and even threatened to insist upon demanding from the surviving partners in the *Review*, the whole of the debt due to him from his late Edinburgh friends' Such a claim was extremely well calculated to breed a schism, and being very naturally resisted, has, we conjecture, led to the split above reported. In the number of the *Review* about to appear, there are, it seems, among others, the following articles:—'Icon Basilike,' by Sir James Mackintosh; 'Hamilton on Languages' and 'M'Adam on Roads,' by the Rev Sydney Smith; 'Commercial Revulsions' by Peter Macculloch; and 'The Massacre of St Bartholemew,' a review of 'Lingard's History of England,' by Mr Allen, the Principal of Fulwich College, and Private Secretary of Lord Holland.

SCOTLAND.

SLEEPING IN CHURCH.

From the Noctes Ambrosianæ of Blackwood's Magazine.

—Shepherd—What yawns have I not seen in kirks! The women, at least the young ones, dinna like to open their mouths verra wide, for it's no becoming, and they're feared the lads may be glowing at them; so they just pucker up their bit lips, draw in their breath, haud down their heads, and put up their hauns to their chests, to conceal a suppressed gaunt, and then straughtenin' the smells up, pretend to be hearkenin' to the practical conclusions.

Tickler.—And pray, James, what business have you to be making such observations during divine service?

Shepherd.—I'm speakin' o' ither years, Mr. Tickler, and human nature's the same noo as in the ninety-eight. As for the auld wives, they lay their big-bonnetted heads on their shoulder, and in' ower into a deep sleep at ance; yet you'll never hear a single one among them committin' a sin. I've often wondered at that, for most o' the cummers hae sonorous noses when lyin' beside the guide man, and may be heard through a' the house, as regular as clock work.

Tickler.—Yes, James, the power of the mind over itself in sleep is indeed inexplicable. The worthy fat old matron says to herself, as her eyes are closing, 'I must not snore in the kirk,' and she snores not—at the most a sort of snuffle. How is this?

Shepherd.—Noo and then you'll see an ill-faured, pock-marked, black-a-vised hizzie in the front laft, opposite the poopit, who has naething to houp frae our side o' the house, openin' the great muckle ugly mouth o' her, like that o' a bull-trout in Tarrass Moss, as if she were eutin' to swallow the minister.

North.—James, James! spare the softer sex!

Shepherd.—But the curiousest thing to observe about the lasses, when they are gettin' drowy during the sermon, is their een. First a glazedness comes ower them, and the lids fa' down, and are lifted up at the rate o' about ten in the minute. Then the poor creatures gie their heads a shake, and unwillin' to be overcome, try to find out the verse the minister may be quotin'; but a' in vain, for the hummin' stillness o' the kirk subdues them into sleep, and the sound o' the preacher is in their lugs like that o' a waterfa'.

North.—Your words, James, are like poppy and mandragora.

Shepherd.—Then, a'thegither unconscious o' what they're doin', they fix their glimmerin' een upon your face, as if they were dyin' for love o' you, and keep nid noddin upon you, for great part o' ane o' the dizen divisions o' the discourse. You may gie a bit laugh at them wi' the corner o' your ee, or touch their fit wi' yours aneath the table, and they'll never sae much as ken you're in the same seat; and, finally, the soft-rounded chin draps down towards the bonnie bosom; the blue veined violet eye lids close the twilight whose dewy fall it was sae pleasant to behold; the rose-bud lips, slightly apart, reveal teeth pure as lily leaves, and the bonny innocent is as sound asleep as her sister at bame in its rockin' cradle.

North.—My dear James, there is so much feeling in your description, that, bordering though it be on the facetious, it yet leaves a deep impression on my mind of the Sabbath-service in one of our lowly kirks.

Shepherd.—Far be it frae me or mine, Mr. North, to treat wi' levity ony sacred subject. But gin folk would sleep in the kirk, where's the harm in sayin' that they do so? My ain opinion is, that the mair dourly you set yourself to listen to a no very bricht discourse, as if you had taken an oath to devourt' frae stoop to roop, the mair certain-sure you are o' fa'in' ower into a deep lang sleep. The vera attitude o' leanin' back, and stretchin' out your legs, and fixing your een in ae direction, is a mair dangerous attitude; and then, gin the minister has ony action—say jokin' down his head, or see-sawin' wi' his hauns, or leanin' ower as if he wanted to speak wi' the precursor, or keepin' his een fixed on the roof, as if there were a hole in't lettin' in the licht o' heaven,—or turnin' first to the ae side and then to the ither, that the congregation may hae an equal share o' his front physiognomy as weel's his side face,—or stannin' bolt upright in the vera middle o' the poopit, without ever ance movin' ony mair than gin he were a corp set up on end by some cauprit, and leitin' out the dry, dusty, moral apothegms wi' ae continued and monotonous gin—oh! Mr. North, Mr. North! could even an evil conscience keep awake under such soporifics, ony mair than the honestest o' men, were the banns cried for the third time, and he gaun to be married on the Monday mornin'!

North.—Yet, after all James, I believe country congregations are in general very attentive.

Shepherd.—Ay, ay, sir. If twa are sleepin', ten are wauken; and I seriously think that mair than ae half o' them that's sleepin' enter into the spirit o' the sermon. You see they a' hear the text, and the introductory remarks, and the heads; and fa'in' asleep in a serious and solemn mood, they carry the sense along wi' them; neither can they be said no to hear an accompanying soun', so that it wadna' be just fair to assert that they lose the sermon they dinna listen to; for thoughts, and ideas, and feelings, keep floatin' down along the stream o' silent thocht, and when they awaken at the 'amen,' their minds, if no greatly instructed, hae been tranquillized, they join loudly in the ensuing psalm, and without remembering many o' the words, carry hame the feek o' the meaning o' the discourse, and a' the peculiarities o' the doctrine.

BALL AND CONCERT FOR THE RELIEF OF THE DISTRESSED MANUFACTURERS OF SCOTLAND.

On Thursday last, a ball and concert was given in the Assembly Rooms, George Street, for the benefit of the distressed manufacturers, which was attended by a fashionable party of nearly 400. The rooms were neatly fitted up for the occasion. The lobby was euricled with white, and edged with pink, and the columns were fluted with white, and wreathed with pink, which had a pleasing effect.—The larger room was appropriated for dancing, and the smaller rooms were very neatly arranged for the concert and refreshments. The company began to arrive about ten, and shortly afterwards dancing commenced, which was kept up with much spirit till nearly 4 o'clock, varying from quadrilles to waltzes and country dances. A little before twelve o'clock, the concert and refreshment rooms were thrown open. The concert began with the glee of "See our bark," which was very prettily sung by Miss Paton, Miss Noel, and Mr. Thorne, with piano-forte accompaniments by Mr. Mather, and violin obligato

by Mr. Stewart. In the course of the evening, Miss Noel sang the song of "Gala Water," with much feeling and pathos; and some time afterwards, Miss Paton gave "Una Voce" in excellent style, accompanied by herself, very sweetly, on the piano-forte. Mr. Thorne likewise joined the ladies in several trios and duets; and Mr. Taylor played the variations of "Rule Britannia" upon the harp with taste and execution. The changes from the ball-room to the concert room had an excellent effect, as it afforded an opportunity of cooling the ball-room at intervals.

The band of the 7th hussars, by their performances throughout the evening, excited universal admiration. The airs of "Bid me discourse," and "Thro' the forests, thro' the meadows, were executed with peculiar taste and expression; as were also "Tell me where it's fancy bred," "Largo al Factotum," and the overture to "La Gazza Ladra;" all of which are arranged by Mr. Leggart, the master of the band, and, along with his performance on the clarinet, proved his superior abilities as a performer, and a man of science and taste.

The ladies' dresses were principally composed of Scottish manufacture, and looked remarkably well. Some of the gentlemen were in fancy dresses, which, added to the splendid uniforms of the officers of the 7th hussars, the 17th and 42d, and also the Edinburgh troop of yeomanry, and the royal archers, his Majesty's body-guard, &c. gave the room a gay and elegant appearance.

Among the company present we observed—

The Right honourable Lady Robert Ker, the right honourable Charlotte Hope, the right honourable Baroness Keith, the right honourable Lady Carmichael, the right honourable Ladies Hay, the honourable Mrs. Rollo, the honourable Mrs. Dundas of Arncliffe, the honourable Mrs. Dundas of Dundas Castle, the honourable Mrs. Norton, the honourable Misses Ker, Lady Heron Maxwell, Lady Carmichael Anstruther, &c.

The Most Noble the Marquis of Tweeddale, the right honourable Lord Robert Ker, the right honourable the Earl of Fife, the honourable Lord John Hay, the right honourable the Lord Provost, the Comte de Flahault, the honourable Mr. Abercromby, Major Shirley and the officers of the 7th hussars, Colonel M'Leane, Major Menzies, Major Bruce Cumming, General Moncrieff, Captain H. Dundas, Captain Dalrymple, R. N., Colonel Leatham, General Straton, Mr. Jeffrey.

The public will learn with pleasure that the elegant decoration of the Assembly Rooms, and the band for dancing, consisting of 30 performers, led by Mr. A. Murray, were gratuitously given—that the refreshments, lighting, &c. were furnished at very reduced prices by Mrs. Baxter and the heirs of Mr. Smith; and that a very handsome donation of 8 dozen of wine was received from the White Company of Scotland.—*Edinburgh paper, June 3d.*

We understand that the subscriptions to the ball for the relief of the distressed manufacturers amounted to £468 3s. The expenses were only £73 16s.—so that there remained to be transmitted to the fund the sum of £412 8s.—16s.

Nearly a hundred gentlemen, who take a warm interest in the success of the General Assembly's scheme for establishing additional schools and catechists in the Highlands and Islands, met at supper on Friday evening, in the Royal Exchange Coffee-house—Principal Baird, chairman, Dr. Chalmers, croupier. The stewards appointed were Drs. Nicol, Macfarlan, Thomson, Cook, Rose; Rev. Mr. M'Leod, Campsie; solicitor general, Sir J. Connell, Sir H. Jardine, Sir A. M. Mackenzie, James Moncrieff, Esq. General Campbell of Lochmell. The evening was passed in great conviviality, and amidst enthusiastic and universal expressions of the best wishes to the great and good cause which had brought them together.—16s.

The commissioners for building churches in the Highlands and Islands of Scotland have made a second report. Of the places to which ministers and manse have been offered, on condition that the existing churches shall be properly repaired, and fitted for divine service, five, it is said, are likely to fail in obtaining the expected benefit. Four churches—Tomantoul, Kinloch Lulichart, Croish, and Plackton in Lochmell—are to be completed before the end of the year. £1500, to which the commissioners are limited for a church, manse, and appurtenances, is complained of as a scanty allowance. And little seems to have been done altogether; but for the current year, a secretary has got £200, a clerk £75, a law agent £200, a superintending engineer £100, and surveyors £746 17s. 6d. making in all an expenditure for the year of £1320 17s. 6d.—16s.

Scotch Banking—In the amended bill for regulating banking in Scotland, clauses are inserted, declaring that four licenses shall be sufficient to authorise the issuing of notes in all the towns of Scotland; that for each neglect of making original or annual returns of officers, partners, &c. in terms of the act, a penalty shall be incurred of £500; that a similar penalty of £500 shall be incurred by the co-partnership for each return that may be false, or that shall not truly set forth the particulars required, and £100 by the officer so offending; and that a false oath made under the act shall be perjury.—16s.